PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

07-08

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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This annual report is also available in electronic format from the Ministry's web site at **www.justice.gov.sk.ca**

Letters of Transmittal

The Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General is committed to ensuring that Saskatchewan communities and neighbourhoods are safe for all the people of the province. We will continue to work with law enforcement, the legal profession, other governments, community groups and individuals to reduce crime and help our citizens feel safe in their homes and on our streets.

Since the election in November 2007, this government has been building on its values of growth, security, and promises. During this time, government has been deliberating on how to strategically invest in Saskatchewan to ensure the momentum translates into long-term, sustained economic prosperity, and to make certain that the benefits of the growing economy are felt by everyone who calls Saskatchewan home.

We are committed to accountability and to ensuring that we deliver on our commitments. A significant number of commitments have already been made to Saskatchewan people in 2007-08 in the election platform, the Speech from the Throne and the public Minister's Mandate letter. This report will provide progress on those commitments as they relate to this Ministry, as of March 31, 2008. We look forward to furthering our commitment to improved accountability as 2008-09 progresses.

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

D R Morgan

Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

The Honourable Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Dear Sir:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

Doug Moen, Q.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice and
Deputy Attorney General

Introduction

The 2007-08 Annual Report of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General provides an overview of the Ministry's organization and progress towards meeting key commitments, as well as the Ministry's financial statements as of March 31, 2008.

Since the election of a new government in November 2007, government undertook a reorganization that has specifically affected the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General. This report is being prepared at a time of transition to a new government's agenda and will provide reporting on key public commitments made during 2007-08 with a greater focus on commitments made by the new government since November 2007.

This report will document progress on key actions and performance measures that were published in 2007-08 and also report on commitments made by the new government since November 2007, including those in the Minister's Mandate letter, the Throne Speech and other key announcements. The report monitors the performance of the Ministry in meeting these key commitments within its mandate that moved the Ministry forward in forging a safer, more secure environment for Saskatchewan citizens that will help to engender growth and security.

Ministry Overview

The mandate of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General flows from the historic and constitutional role of the Attorney General to uphold the rule of law[1], protect basic legal rights of citizens, and ensure good and proper administration of justice. Effective justice services contribute to social stability and, by extension, to a high quality of life for citizens. Justice services must reflect the norms of the community and support a safe, secure, healthy and growing society.

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General has about 1,000 employees across the province working towards achieving its commitments. Ministry employees work with other ministries, governments and community partners to administer and deliver justice, protect basic legal rights and relationships and provide other justice functions, such as producing legal publications and developing alternative mechanisms to resolve disputes.

Ministry activities are organized into six main divisions: Community Justice, Public Prosecutions, Courts and Civil Justice, Civil Law, Public Law, and Finance and Administration. A brief description of each of these areas is provided below.

The Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch provides support to all divisions in the Ministry and to the Minister in areas of corporate, federal/provincial and inter-agency policy and justice relations with specific emphasis on criminal law policy, family law policy, youth justice policy and Aboriginal policy. It supports the implementation of criminal, youth and family justice legislative changes and initiatives. The Branch also facilitates program review and evaluation for ministerial programs or initiatives, performs statistical analysis and research on behalf of the Ministry and provides support to ministerial performance management activities.

The Ministries of Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Public Safety and Policing share the services of the following branches: Communications and Public Education; Administrative Services; Information Management Services; and Human Resources.

1 In general terms, the rule of law means that the Government and all citizens are subject to the law and must operate according to its terms.

Organizational Changes in 2007-08

The new government reorganized the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General in 2007-08. Responsibility for Law Enforcement Services, including RCMP provincial policing, the Saskatchewan Police Commission, Aboriginal Policing, the Vehicle Impoundment against Sexual Exploitation (VISE) program, and the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) program, was assigned to the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing. For the current organizational chart of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, please see Appendix A.

Community Justice Division

The Community Justice Division includes Community Services, Victim Services and Aboriginal and Northern Justice Initiatives. It provides alternative measures and crime prevention programs that respond to the needs of communities for increased safety and greater involvement in justice services, and provides a range of services to meet the needs of victims of crime. It supports the development and delivery of community-based justice initiatives, co-ordinates Aboriginal and northern justice initiatives and funds the Aboriginal Courtworker Program.

The Division is also home to a unique set of Aboriginal initiatives made possible by funding innovative partnerships with Aboriginal organizations and the federal government. These programs respect Aboriginal values and traditions and provide employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Public Prosecutions Division

The Public Prosecutions Division represents the interests of the general public in the criminal justice system. It provides legal advice to Government and numerous law enforcement agencies. Prosecutors assess investigation results to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to prosecute a violation of the law and whether the public interest in that prosecution justifies the expenditure of public funds. Public Prosecutions Division also has a substantial role in training law enforcement officials, such as police.

Courts and Civil Justice Division

The Courts and Civil Justice Division provides judicial and operational support to the court system, produces transcripts and provides enforcement services for legal judgments through the Sheriff's Office. It provides maintenance enforcement and other family justice services to assist parents and children deal with the difficulties of family breakdown. The Division licenses Commissioners of Oaths, Notaries Public and Marriage Commissioners. It also provides dispute resolution services to assist in resolving disputes outside the court system and protects the interests of people who do not have the capacity to manage their own financial affairs. As well, it supports economic well-being through the provision of corporate registry services.

Civil Law Division

The Civil Law Division provides legal services to the ministries, agencies, boards and commissions of the Government of Saskatchewan.

Public Law Division

The Public Law Division provides legal services to Government, including advice on Aboriginal, trade law and constitutional matters, and legal, policy and technical advice in relation to legislation. Through the Queen's Printer, it publishes and distributes legislation, regulations and other government publications.

Finance and Administration Division

The Finance and Administration Division provides administrative services to senior management and operational areas of the Ministry through the following branches that are shared with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing: Administrative Services, and Information Management. These support services are also provided to a number of boards and commissions assigned to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Responsibility for the Consumer Protection Branch lies within this Division. This Branch is a regulatory body that grants licenses, regulates market conduct, investigates complaints, answers inquiries and oversees the regulation of the death services industry through an industry self-regulatory body. The major activity within the Branch is to provide information and direction to

the public and businesses to assist in dealing with problems encountered in the marketplace. It also acts directly for members of the public unable to protect themselves.

This Division also is responsible for the Access and Privacy Branch. This Branch helps improve the management of public access to government records while also supporting government efforts to improve privacy protection.

Key Partners

The participation of our key partners, including federal, municipal, First Nations and Métis governments, is critical to the achievement of our key commitments. Working together with the federal government is essential in a number of areas, particularly with respect to criminal justice and sentencing reform, First Nations people and through cost-sharing or contribution agreements. Our relationship with other justice partners and human services ministries and agencies is also key to developing a collaborative approach to dealing with crime, its underlying causes and the legal service needs of individuals.

The following table outlines the key functions of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and lists the partners required to ensure that we achieve our key commitments.

Key Functions of Ministry of Justice and Attorney General	Key Partners Required to Deliver our Strategic Plan
Administration and delivery of justice • Prosecuting offences under the *Criminal Code*, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, and provincial statutes • Providing civil legal services to government • Operating the Provincial Court, Court of Queen's Bench, and Court of Appeal (except for the appointment of superior court judges) • Recognizing and responding to the needs of victims of crime	• Judiciary • Federal Department of Justice • Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing • Police • Provincial/Territorial Justice ministries and agencies • Defence bar, including Legal Aid • Community justice agencies, including Aboriginal service delivery agencies • Aboriginal Courtworkers • Municipal and First Nations and Métis authorities involved in justice issues
Protection of basic legal rights and relationships • Protecting and managing the estates of dependent adults or minors through the Public Guardian and Trustee • Operating the provincial coroners system • Registering and/or licensing all corporations and entities that conduct business in the province • Enforcing maintenance orders • Regulating consumer and marketplace relations	• Private bar • Police • Business organizations • Federal/Provincial/Territorial authorities exercising similar responsibilities
Other Justice functions • Developing alternative mechanisms to resolve disputes outside the courts through legislated initiatives and education • Administrating *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* • Providing legal publications through the Queen's Printer Revolving Fund • Operating the Marriage Unit • Supporting access to public records and privacy protection	• Consumer organizations • Police • Mediation, arbitration and collaborative law organizations • Federal/Provincial/Territorial authorities exercising similar responsibilities

In Summary

Together, the Divisions of the Ministry work with stakeholders and partners to ensure that the justice system:

- provides criminal court structure and enforces criminal law (*Criminal Code*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and provincial statutes) effectively, including the need to be tough on serious and violent crime and repeat offenders and to take an integrated approach to dealing with the underlying causes of crime and re-offending;
- provides effective mechanisms for resolving social conflict to ensure that people do not turn to destructive ways of dealing with their issues that may undermine the safety and security of Saskatchewan people and communities;
- responds to the legal needs of people, particularly those in vulnerable circumstances and those involved in family disputes;
- plays a key regulatory function in the marketplace to safeguard business, consumer and public interests and support a growing economy; and
- provides legal and policy services to Government, including serving as the Government's official legal advisor and representing the Government before courts and tribunals, as well as advising ministries and agencies about developing legislative proposals and drafting all legislative instruments.

Progress in 2007-08

The key actions originally presented in our 2007-08 Plan are provided below, organized by key business areas and followed by a report on actual progress for each. Actual results information is included for all key actions and performance measures that were published in the 2007-08 Performance Plan, as well as for all commitments related to the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General from the Minister's Mandate letter, the December 2007 Speech from the Throne and other key commitments during 2007-08 where we have achieved significant progress.

a) A New Government Direction – Growth, Security and Promises

This section of the report provides results since the election of the new government in November 2007.

Minister's Mandate Letter, November 2007

To view the Minister of Justice and Attorney General's Mandate Letter, please visit **www.gov.sk.ca/cabinet/morgan/**

The link to the Minister's Mandate Letter is located at the bottom of the page, under Related Documents.

Key Commitments and Results

- Strengthen legislation and enforcement to allow the provincial government and police forces to seize assets that are used to commit crimes, that are a proceed of crime or that pose a threat to public safety.
  - The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General is working with its partners to identify changes needed to strengthen legislation and enforcement to allow the provincial government and police forces to seize assets that are used to commit crimes, that are a proceed of crime or that pose a threat to public safety.
- Toughen penalties for repeat drunk drivers by directing Crown prosecutors to seek the forfeiture of a vehicle from persons convicted of three or more drunk driving convictions under the *Criminal Code*.
  - On December 12, 2007, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General announced that Crown prosecutors would be strongly directed to consider seeking the forfeiture of a vehicle under s. 490.1 of the *Criminal Code* from a person convicted of three or

more drunk driving offences. The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General has developed policy direction and processes to implement this approach.

- Support the efforts of the federal government to implement tougher sentences for serious crimes, crimes that involve use of a firearm and repeat dangerous offenders.
  - The February 28, 2008 news release by the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General congratulated the federal government for passing the *Tackling Violent Crime Act*. The Ministry is working, in conjunction with other provinces and territories, to support the federal government's efforts to implement tougher sentences for serious crimes, crimes that involve use of a firearm, and repeat dangerous offenders. The legislation will come into force early in the 2008-09 fiscal year.
- Request the federal government to toughen sentences for sexual offenders who commit crimes against children, home invasions and crimes of violence against a police officer.
  - The Ministry continues to work with the federal government on reforms concerning a wide range of criminal issues, including discussions at the federal/provincial/territorial ministers' meeting in November 2007 and the organized crime summit in March 2008.
- Increase the Victim Impact Surcharge levied on offenders by five per cent.
  - As announced in February 2008, effective July 1, 2008 the Victim Surcharge will increase by $10 for any fine less than $500 and by 10 per cent for any fine over $500. This means that the Victim Surcharge for a fine over $500 will be 40 per cent of the imposed amount. This will ensure the stability of the Victims' Fund and the many programs and services that it provides to victims of crime.
- Ensure that restitution orders charged to criminals are enforced and establish a tracking system to collect unpaid fines.
  - Victims Services and Justice Canada collaborated to develop a plan to review the Restitution Program in Saskatchewan that will conclude in fall 2008. This review will provide the basis for future decision making in policy and procedures for restitution orders.
  - In February 2008, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General announced that the Ministry's Fine Collection Branch will partner with the Canada Revenue Agency to garnish federal government income tax refunds and GST credits from people who have not paid their fines. It applies to all fines laid under provincial statutes that are payable to the province.
- Implement legislation to establish fixed provincial election dates.
  - *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2007*, legislation to establish fixed election dates to receive Royal Assent in early 2008-09 fiscal year.
- Introduce legislation to restrict the amount and type of advertising a government can do in the four months preceding an election.
  - No action taken.

December 2007 Speech from the Throne

To view the Speech from the Throne, please visit **www.gov.sk.ca/executive-council/throne-speech/**

Key Commitments and Results

- The new government committed to achieving growth and security in the context of a "safer, more secure environment for everyone in Saskatchewan". This commitment includes supporting healthy, active families and safer communities.
- The new government committed to improving the quality of life of the people of Saskatchewan, which includes improving the quality of life for First Nations and Métis peoples.
  - The Ministry has furthered the government's commitment to a "safer, more secure environment for everyone in Saskatchewan" through the actions taken to address the Minister's Mandate letter described above, and actions in the 2007-08 Performance Plan to support healthy families and safer communities and to improve the quality of life for all citizens, particularly for First Nations and Métis peoples.

b) Progress of Commitments to Address New Government Themes

The Ministry is currently developing a new strategic direction that will achieve the vision and specific objectives of government and the Ministry's mandate. This new strategic direction has not yet been completed. Below, the Ministry describes its key commitments as they appeared in the 2007-08 Performance Plan, as well as progress made to meet those commitments. These commitments have been grouped under the following broad themes:

- safer, more secure communities;
- improved quality of life for Saskatchewan people;
- healthy, active families; and
- legal and policy services.

While there remains a great deal of work yet to be done, the Ministry is generally satisfied with progress made to date on our key commitments.

Safer, More Secure Communities

The theme of safer, more secure communities is related to key commitments of the following divisions and branches in the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General: Public Prosecutions; Courts Services; the Chief Coroner's Office; and Victims Services.

Saskatchewan people want their families, their homes, and their communities to be safe and secure. The Ministry has a balanced, multi-year criminal justice strategy for building safer communities and overall public confidence in the criminal justice system through targeted interventions and improved efficiency. This includes initiatives in the areas of prosecutions, law enforcement, victims' services, court services, criminal law reform, legal aid and crime prevention. This approach recognizes the need for a continuum of justice services with an increased emphasis on community-based services, including responsibility for local delivery, crime prevention, holistic treatment of offenders and victims in family violence situations, and involvement of victims in the criminal justice process.

Holding offenders accountable for their actions is a critical component of community safety. The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, together with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing (CPSP), continues to work towards ensuring offender accountability in three ways: custodial sentences and community supervision orders; financial commitments; and community justice programs. The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General works to improve performance in fine collection and community justice programs.

The Ministry also supports timely and appropriate responses to the needs of victims of crime. It effectively manages the Victims' Fund to maximize funding for programs and services. It provides basic crisis intervention services immediately following a crime or traumatic event, with special emphasis on those more vulnerable to victimization such as children, victims of violent crime, Aboriginal peoples and person with disabilities. It also provides financial compensation and support services to help victims through the criminal justice process and assists victims in having a greater voice in the process. As well, it educates the public and justice professionals about the needs of victims and how to respond in a helpful and compassionate manner.

Key Commitments and Results

- To deal with serious offending youth and young adults, the Ministry will continue to work in partnership with justice agencies to develop, monitor and evaluate integrated, targeted responses in Regina, Saskatoon, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Meadow Lake and La Ronge.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Public Safety and Policing are working to support strong, vibrant, growing communities. In partnership with other levels of government, First Nations and Métis peoples and community organizations, the Ministries are assisting in developing community-based, integrated initiatives to reduce crime and keep communities safe. Initiatives exist in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, the Battlefords, Meadow Lake and La Ronge.
  - The Regina Auto Theft Strategy has been in place since February 2002 and auto thefts were reduced by 25.4 per cent in 2007, for a total reduction of 62 per cent since 2001.
  - The Saskatoon Break and Enter Strategy has been in place since June 2004 and break and enters were reduced by 21.8 per cent in 2007, for a total decrease of 52 per cent since 2004.
- To increase public safety and create a hostile environment for organized crime and gang

activities, the Ministry will continue to work with the community to implement initiatives to investigate and curtail organized crime and gang activity.
(2007-08 planned result)

- The Ministries of Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, with funding assistance from the National Crime Prevention Centre, supported the implementation of gang prevention initiatives in Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Regina.

- To avoid cases of wrongful conviction, the Ministry will respond to the results of the Milgaard inquiry.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Wrongful Conviction of David Milgaard will be delivered in 2008-09, after which the Ministry will respond to the findings and recommendations of the report.

- To ensure that justice processes are accurately recorded, monitored and communicated to offenders, victims and across the justice system, to hold offenders accountable and to support victim and community safety, the Ministry together with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing will continue the development of an integrated justice system.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministries of Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Public Safety and Policing continue to pursue an integrated justice approach. The Ministries are exploring the best method of implementing electronic systems for tracking criminal justice actions in the Province.

- To improve the efficiency of court processes, the Ministry will expand the use of video-conferencing in Saskatoon and work in partnership with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing and the RCMP to develop a plan to implement video-conferencing in Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - In 2007-08, video-conferencing was expanded from first appearance-only to include routine appearances and bail hearings. In addition, two other video-conferencing links were established, one between the Prince Albert Provincial Court and the Pelican Narrows RCMP Detachment and the other in the Prince Albert Detention Unit to accommodate prisoners in the Prince Albert Correctional Centre and the Pine Grove Correctional Centre. This will reduce prisoner transport by providing the ability to video-conference prisoners to La Ronge Provincial Court and other northern court locations. In the 2008-09 fiscal year, video-links will be established in La Ronge and Meadow Lake court locations, as well as other northern provincial court circuit points.

- To improve relationships between the Aboriginal community and the courts, the Ministry will take steps to incorporate Aboriginal language and cultural needs, through:
  - increased court locations on reserve;
  - increased translation services; and
  - use of Aboriginal Justices of the Peace in northern Saskatchewan.
  (2007-08 planned result)
    - The Northern Access to Justice Committee's final report contained discussion concerning court services in the North, including on reserve. The Committee's final report will be released early in 2008-09.
    - During the 2007-08 fiscal year, the Ministry was able to maintain the provision of Dene and Cree language services for all court locations in northern Saskatchewan. In addition, additional capacity for Cree-speaking staff has been accommodated in Prince Albert for the Cree Court party. No additional court locations were established on reserve during this fiscal year due to facility concerns. No additional Aboriginal Justices of the Peace have been identified in northern Saskatchewan, other than those reported in 2006-07.

- To ensure adequate access to criminal legal aid, the Ministry will support the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission in implementing its Strategic Plan and work to establish adequate levels of federal funding for criminal and civil legal aid.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry continues to work with the federal Department of Justice Canada for renewed and enhanced funding to support criminal legal aid and for funding for civil legal aid. In 2007-08, the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission received $200,000 in additional provincial funding for two lawyer positions to serve the North.

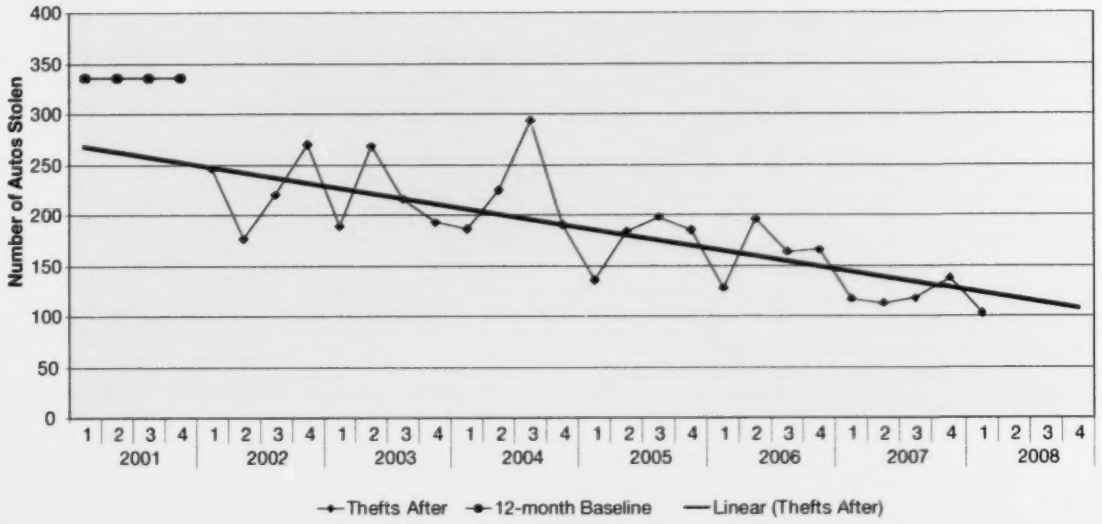
- To reduce re-offending and the use of drugs or other substances by offenders, the Ministry will work with the Ministries of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, Health, and others to support and evaluate the therapeutic drug court model in Regina.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Regina Drug Treatment Court held its first sitting in October 2006. Since that date, more than 115 referrals have been made to the program by the Crown prosecutor. At March 31, 2008, there were 24 offenders actively participating in the program. An evaluation of the Regina Drug Treatment Court is well underway. The interim report will be completed in summer 2008 and the final report in December 2008.
- To continue to enhance forensic expertise, the Ministry will build the capacity of the Coroner's system in criminal and non-criminal cases with the addition of a second dedicated pathologist and full-time regional Coroners.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The recruitment for the second forensic pathologist began in 2007-08, with the goal to have a person in place by fall 2008. The northern regional coroner's office is completely staffed with three full-time coroners. Plans for the southern regional coroner's office were revised and staffing the one full-time coroner position is underway.
- To improve access to services and supports for victims of crime, the Ministry will review its victims services and develop a multi-year action plan.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Work on this key action item has been delayed to 2008-09.
- To improve services and supports for victims of crime, the Ministry will ensure that all its police-based victims services co-ordinators, assistant co-ordinators, and Aboriginal resource officers participate in the SIAST certificate program.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry, through Victims Services, ensured that all police-based victims services co-ordinators, assistant co-ordinators and Aboriginal resource officers participated in the standardized, basic victims services co-ordinator training program at SIAST. As well, domestic violence caseworkers with domestic violence courts were offered the training opportunity.
- To better meet the needs of victims awarded restitution, the Ministry will develop and begin implementation of an evaluation plan of its Restitution Program.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Victims Services assisted Justice Canada in planning for the research project "Understanding Restitution in Saskatchewan", that will be conducted in 2008-09.

Measurement Results

Impact of targeted initiatives on crime rate
Per cent change in auto theft crime in Regina

Progress to date
62% reduction over 2001 levels (December 2007)

Regina Auto Theft Strategy 2001 - 2008



[Source: Regina Police Service, December 2008]

Several years ago, the Regina community demonstrated concern at the level of vehicle theft in the city. The Regina Auto Theft Strategy was developed as a targeted response to a group of high-risk/chronic-offending youth and adults who were responsible for a large number of auto thefts in Regina. This measure demonstrates the success of the Auto Theft Strategy at reducing levels of motor vehicle theft in Regina.

During the first year of the Strategy, auto thefts and attempted auto thefts were reduced by 29 per cent. By December 31, 2006, the overall reduction from 2001 was 49.6 per cent, increasing to 62 per cent by December 31, 2007. In 2001, an average of 10.53 vehicles per day were reported stolen; in 2007, the average was 4.0 vehicles per day.

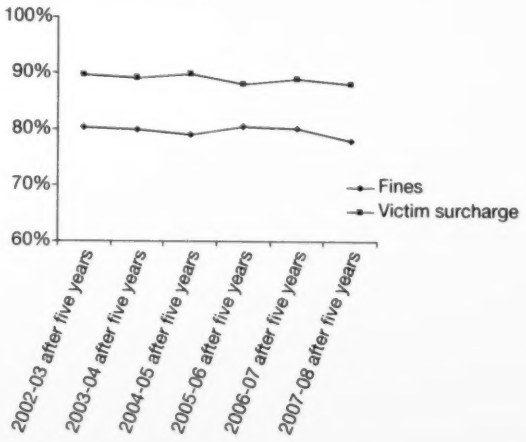
The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General shares responsibility for the results of this measure with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, the Regina Police Service and other partners. The Ministry has a moderate influence over this measure which can be greatly affected by factors outside the control of the Ministry, such as reallocation of police resources to other areas and weather conditions.

Offender accountability

- *Per cent of dollar amount of fines ordered paid within five years of disposition*
- *Per cent of dollar amount of provincial victim surcharges collected within five years of disposition*

Progress to date:
Fines: 77.9% (2007-08)
Surcharges: 88% (2007-08)

Dollar amount collected of fines and late payment fees, and victim surcharge assessed 2002-03 to 2007-08



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Court Services, 2008]

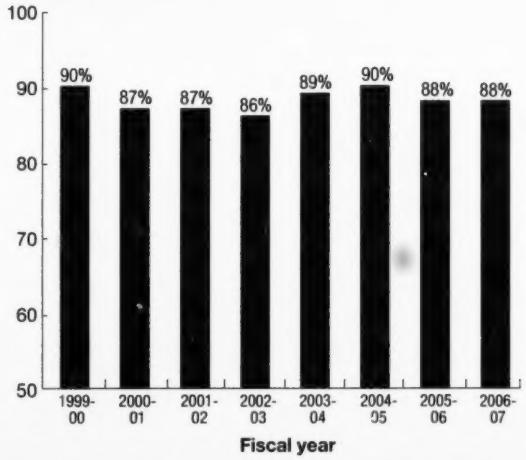
This performance measure represents one way that offenders may be held accountable for their actions. Offenders can be ordered to pay fines as part of their sentence and judges can order the offender pay a surcharge to the Victims' Fund. These two performance measures are linked. When a fine is paid, dollars are allocated to the provincial victim surcharge first, and then the remainder is applied to the fine itself.

The Ministry has low to moderate influence over this measure. Although the Ministry continues to work on cost-effective methods of collecting unpaid fines, factors such as the employment status and ability of the individual to pay are out of the Ministry's control.

Offender accountability
Per cent of offenders successfully completing agreements in alternative measures programs

Progress to date
88% [2006-07 most recent data available]

Adult offenders successfully completing agreements in alternative measures programs, 1999-00 to 2006-07



[Source: The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Policy, Planning and Evaluation, 2008]

Another way of holding offenders accountable is through alternative measures programs often delivered by community-based agencies funded by Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Public Safety and Policing. Alternative measures programs use diversion, mediation or conferencing to attempt to balance the needs of victims, offenders and communities while ensuring that society is protected. This performance measure shows the success of offenders in completing agreements reached in alternative measures programs

Over the years, programs have maintained a consistently high level of success with offenders referred to these programs, ranging from 86 per cent to 90 per cent completion of agreements.

The Ministry has a low level of influence over this measure. The following determinants have been identified by program managers as affecting offender success:
- offender attitudes, values, beliefs, cognitive challenges, addictions;
- available treatment services and programs;
- family and social supports;
- educational/employment opportunities; and
- changing police practices.

This performance measure also depends on external variables, such as the willingness of participants to reach agreements, skills of the mediator/facilitator and family support. This type of justice intervention may not have a long-term impact on some offenders if lifestyle conditions and supports do not change. But, research and evaluation projects have shown that participants in alternative measures programs are less likely to re-offend than a cohort group of offenders who do not participate in these programs.

Access to courts
Average length of time to next trial date in criminal proceedings:
- *at northern court points*
- *in Saskatoon*

Progress to date
- At northern court points: 135 days (2007-08)
- In Saskatoon: 173 days (2007-08)

[Source: The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Courts Services, 2008]

Timeliness of the court process is critical in protecting the rights of persons in criminal processes, in improving the effectiveness of the court in serving the public, and in protecting public safety.

The 2007-08 time to next trial at northern points is down from 2006-07 (150) due to increased sittings of the Aboriginal court party in the northwest area of Saskatchewan. The high workload in Saskatoon has increased the time to the next trial date in 2007-08 over 2006-07 (155). Over the past three years, the result for the time to next trial date in the North has not been consistent, decreasing in 2005-06, increasing in 2006-07 and now once again decreasing. The time to trial in Saskatoon has increased over this period of time.

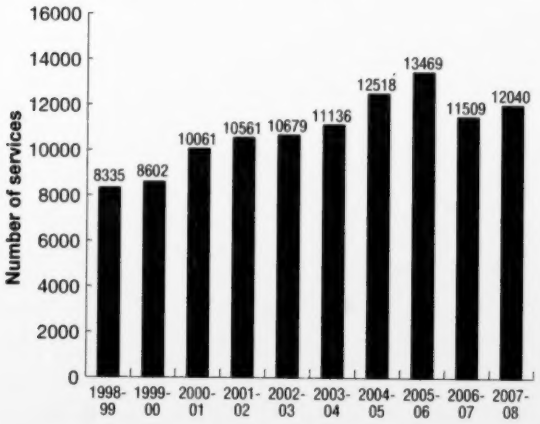
To reduce the length of time to next trial date in criminal proceedings requires the co-operation of all parts of the criminal justice system to reduce the number of adjournments, increase the efficiency in scheduling court time and increase the efficiency in justice response to issues, such as qualification of offenders for legal aid. Although the Ministry has some influence on this measure, factors such as increasing charge rates, complexity and type of court cases, length of trials, number of adjournments and availability of judges and other justice personnel for special sittings directly affect this measure. As well, in the

North, where the court party must travel to reach many of the court points, weather is a factor.

Access to legal advice
Number of services provided to accused who have been detained or arrested by police and exercise their right to legal counsel after regular office hours

Progress to date
12,040 services (2007-08)

Number of services provided to accused who have been detained or arrested by police and exercise their right to legal counsel through Legal Aid, 1998-99 to 2007-08



[Source: Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission, 2008]

The Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission has made arrangements with non-Legal Aid counsel to handle calls after regular office hours from accused who are detained or arrested (Duty Counsel Advice Service). When contacted by offenders, the non-Legal Aid counsel provides legal assistance. These calls are recorded on the database of the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission.

In 2007-08, the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission delivered 12,040 duty counsel advice services, 531 more than in 2006-07. In 2006-07, a change in response procedures resulted in a decrease in the number of calls to the Duty Counsel Advice Service. Modest increases can be seen in the last two years.

The Ministry has a low level of influence over this measure. The Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission also has little control over this measure, as it is governed by how many accused access the service.

Expansion of use of therapeutic justice system responses
Number of therapeutic courts

Progress to date
4 (2007-08)
[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Policy, Planning and Evaluation, 2008]

The Regina Domestic Violence Court held its first sitting in March 2008, bringing the number of therapeutic courts operating in Saskatchewan to four – three domestic violence courts and one drug treatment court, an increase of one over 2006-07. The first therapeutic court was implemented in April 2003.

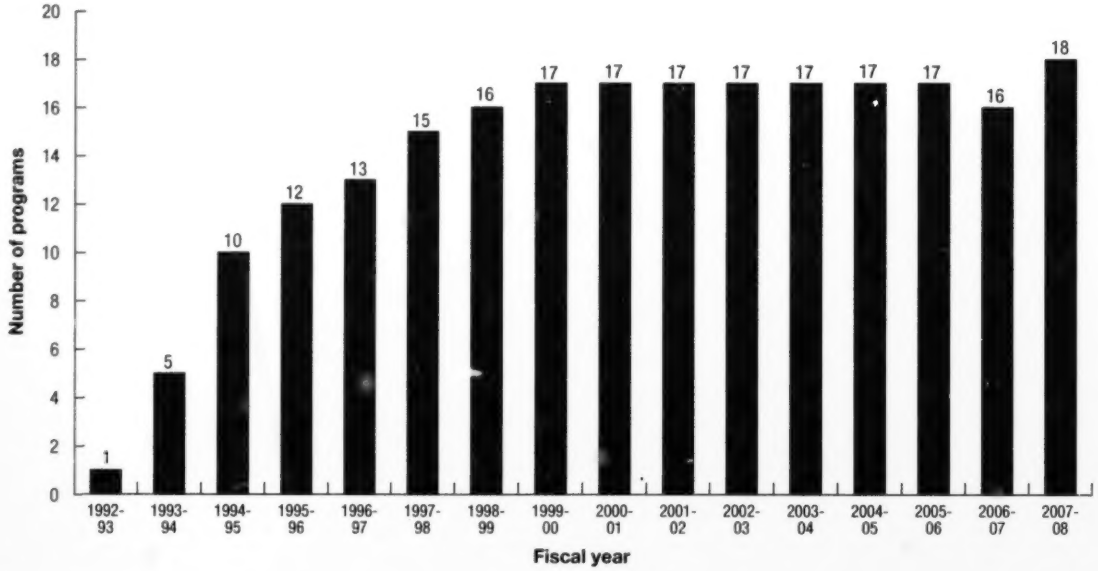
For several years, the Ministry has partnered with community-based agencies to deliver programs using a restorative approach (e.g. alternative measures, community justice, sentencing circles, holistic healing circles). It is now using a community development model to develop therapeutic responses to issues of interpersonal violence and abuse and drug abuse.

Access to and satisfaction with victim services programs

- *Per cent of population with access to police-based victim services programs*
- *Number of police-based victim services programs*
- *Per cent of respondents who were very or somewhat satisfied with police-based victim services*

Progress to date
Population: 87% (2007-08)
Number of programs: 18 (2007-08)
Satisfaction level: 91.9% (2007-08)

Expansion of police-based victim services programs 1992-2008



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Victims Services]

In 2007-08, 18 police-based victim services programs served victims of crime directly and were available to 87 per cent of the Saskatchewan population. This is an increase of two programs over 2006-07. Therefore, the per cent of population with access to police-based victims services programs has increased by seven per cent in this fiscal year.

In 2007-08, the ongoing survey of clients served by police-based victims services programs showed that 91.9 per cent of the respondents were satisfied or extremely satisfied with the supports and services provided and that 90.8 per cent believed the response met their needs.

The survey also showed that clients believe they are treated with courtesy, respect and compassion in a non-judgmental manner. Survey results for the first year of implementation (2006-07) showed similar results.

Funding for these programs that are part of municipal and RCMP police services comes from the Victims' Fund. Expanding the number of police-based Victims Services programs depends on increasing the financial resources available in the Victims' Fund. These programs serve victims of crime directly and should be available to all Saskatchewan people. Communities, especially those with high Aboriginal populations, often

request that victims services programs be established in their area.

These programs provide crisis intervention, information, support and referral for victims of crime and traumatic events, such as accidental death. The Ministry has a high level of influence over this measure.

Improved Quality of Life for Saskatchewan People

The theme of improved quality of life for Saskatchewan people, particularly First Nations and Métis peoples, is related to key commitments of the following Ministry divisions, branches and agencies: Community Justice; Consumer Protection Branch; and Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission.

The Ministry recognizes the need to reform the justice system to better meet the needs of Saskatchewan people, with specific emphasis on the needs of First Nations and Métis peoples. A fair, responsive justice system that is valued and respected is a critical component of a safe, secure Saskatchewan and the quality of life of its people.

With Aboriginal communities and leaders, the Ministry seeks a justice system that accounts for cultural distinctiveness and actively involves Aboriginal peoples and communities in positive ways. The Ministry encourages the participation of Aboriginal peoples in the administration of justice through its community-based service delivery approach that suggests Aboriginal people are best able to provide services to Aboriginal people.

The changing nature of the marketplace requires constant vigilance. Consumers are buying goods and services in forms and in ways not contemplated a decade ago, and businesses are evolving. To remain effective, adaptations must be made and regulations reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure they promote economic and social well-being.

Key Commitments and Results

- To promote community capacity, the Ministry will provide training for volunteer community boards serving in program areas, such as victims services and community justice.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry provided training on board development, roles and responsibilities to several agencies.
- To support community organizations in crime prevention activities and to promote integration of crime prevention initiatives, the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, together with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, will develop and promote the provincial crime prevention strategy.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - In 2007-08, planning and development continued on a community crime prevention approach. Sandy Bay was selected to pilot this approach. The pilot will continue in 2008-09.
- To support community organizations in crime prevention activities, the Ministry will continue to participate in decision-making processes with the National Crime Prevention Centre and its programs.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Justice and Attorney General continued to participate in the decision-making process used by the National Crime Prevention Centre to make funding available for community-based projects in Saskatchewan. In 2007-08, the decisions resulted in the following financial commitments by the National Crime Prevention Centre: $402,473 to community-based projects covering a wide range of issues, including substance abuse, youth engagement in crime prevention and the development of community-based gang reduction resources; $300,000 toward femicide research and community action approaches; and $723,000 to youth gang interventions.
- To support northern crime prevention initiatives, the Ministry will work with other ministries to respond to the 2006 report from the Northern Youth Strategic Action Plan.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing provided funding to New North, the organization commissioned to work on the Northern Youth Strategic Action Plan. The purpose of the funding was to allow New North to implement actions to empower youth and respond to youth needs in northern Saskatchewan. The partnering ministries: Justice and Attorney General; Corrections, Public Safety and Policing; Social Services; First Nations and Métis Relations; Health, Education; and Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport continue to work

with New North to respond to the report completed in November 2006 and to identify the next steps.

- To increase Aboriginal involvement and ownership of justice responses, the Ministry will continue to enhance the capacity and engagement of Aboriginal people in their community structures, program design and delivery (e.g. community justice committees and lay coroners).
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Increased financial support was provided to community justice programs in First Nations communities to allow program expansion.
- To increase Aboriginal involvement in developing justice responses, the Ministry will support the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and Métis Family and Community Justice Services Inc. (MFCJS) in implementing their activities in response to recommendations by the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - To support the ongoing work of the FSIN, the Ministry funded a provincial First Nations policing conference in November 2007. No funding support was provided to MFCJS because no proposal for a specific project was received.
- To increase Aboriginal involvement in developing justice responses, the Ministry will continue to seek advice from the Traditional Elders Ministerial Advisory Committee on justice reform and on existing policies, programs and services.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Traditional Elders Ministerial Advisory Committee provided advice to the Ministry with respect to recent legislative initiatives, reform within the criminal justice system and its relationship with Aboriginal peoples.
- To address interpersonal violence and abuse in Aboriginal communities, the Ministry will implement its response to the evaluation of the Aboriginal Family Violence Strategy completed in 2005-06, with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of the eight programs through adequate funding and support for planning.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry is responding to the recommendations in the report. At a program retreat held in spring 2007, the programs worked with government representatives to develop a plan for the Strategy. Changes were made to the delivery model to ensure sustainability in Saskatoon and Regina, although no additional funding was available in the 2007-08 budget.
- To promote community engagement in reducing Aboriginal offending and victimization, the Ministry will expand the work of community justice committees and programs.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry worked with existing community justice programs to enhance their programs. A community justice committee was created in Sandy Bay. Pilot projects were implemented in Regina and Saskatoon to deal with more serious cases using a restorative justice approach.
- To demonstrate a therapeutic/integrated community-based response to incidences of family/interpersonal violence, the Ministry will work with specific communities and other ministries and agencies to support:
  - prevention;
  - community capacity building;
  - therapeutic courts; and
  - community safety planning.

  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Regina Domestic Violence Court held its first sitting in March 2008. Ministerial and community partnerships continue to ensure effective, efficient processes in this court and the two other domestic violence courts, one in Saskatoon and one in the Battlefords. Data reports are available for the Saskatoon and Battlefords courts. An evaluation report on the Battlefords Domestic Violence Treatment Option Court will be completed in summer 2008. The evaluation of the Saskatoon court has begun.
  - Children Who Witness Interpersonal Violence and Abuse programs were established in the Moose Jaw and Estevan areas. Development work with community representatives for two northern program models was begun in La Ronge and Buffalo Narrows. It is anticipated service delivery will begin in these communities in 2008-09.
- To respond to interpersonal violence and abuse levels in northern Saskatchewan, the Ministry will work with one community to develop appropriate responses to issues, such as

interpersonal violence and abuse in the north.
(2007-08 planned result)

- Although work is proceeding more slowly than anticipated in Sandy Bay, progress is being made. Victims Services was fully operational in September 2007 and a community justice worker was in place for over half the year. In addition, the community was provided assistance to engage a community developer to work on community healing initiatives and a community wellness plan.

- To address interpersonal violence and abuse, the Ministry will work with other ministries to implement a provincial strategy to stop interpersonal violence and abuse.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Interministerial Committee on Interpersonal Violence and Abuse (co-chaired by Justice and Attorney General and Social Services) developed a policy framework on interpersonal violence and abuse that outlines the goals and guiding principles for individuals, organizations, communities and government to work together in stopping interpersonal violence and abuse. As well, this Committee worked with Saskatchewan Towards Offering Partnership Solutions to Violence (STOPS) to develop a community plan. This plan offers a framework for consistent, co-ordinated, effective responses to interpersonal violence and abuse and tools to assist communities in enhancing their responses to situations involving interpersonal violence and abuse. Pilots in Ile-á-la-Crosse and Moose Jaw were initiated in 2007-08.

- To support analysis of the scope and causes of Aboriginal offending and victimization, the Ministry will work provincially and nationally to ensure that accurate and appropriate data collection processes are in place.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - In February 2008, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) initiated a consultation with Saskatchewan police services and key Aboriginal organizations regarding the collection of Aboriginal-specific, police-reported offending and violent victimization data. The study based on these consultations will be completed by March 2009. An official from the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General co-chairs the CCJS working group overseeing this work.

- To improve consumer and investor protection, the Ministry and the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission will work towards implementing legislation regulating the mortgage brokering industry in Saskatchewan.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - *The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act* received Royal Assent on May 17, 2007.

- To address concerns within the payday lending industry, the Ministry and the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission will implement legislation to regulate payday lenders, including measures to address the issues of rollovers, the high costs of the loans and the disclosure of fees and charges for payday loans.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - *The Payday Loans Act* received Royal Assent on May 17, 2007.

- To ensure continued relevance to the circumstances of consumers, industry and government, the Ministry will continue its review of consumer protection legislation and delivery strategies.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - Amendments to *The Consumer Protection Act* were implemented, effective October 15, 2007.

- To increase Aboriginal participation in the administration of justice, the Ministry will continue to support employment diversity policies and actively recruit Aboriginal employees.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Justice and Attorney General 2007-08 Diverse Workplace Strategy continues to focus on recruitment and retention of equity groups. The Ministry was represented at career fairs across the province, reaching approximately 4,000 students. The Ministry is represented by equity group employees in equity group organizations, including annual conferences. Diversity competencies are included in staffing management positions to create workplaces that respect and champion diversity. Additional opportunities for equity group recruitment and retention include student and practicum programs. The Ministry maintains close ties with the University of Saskatchewan law school and Native Law Centre. The Ministry continues to advertise employment opportunities in equity group newspapers and email networks.

- To improve ministerial understanding of Aboriginal culture, the Ministry will support programs to increase cultural awareness for Ministry and justice system employees. (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry continued to deliver the Aboriginal Issues Workshop. This two-day workshop was attended by approximately 30 employees.

Measurement Results

Services provided to accused
Number of accused served by courtworkers in the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program

Progress to date
14,000 (2007-08)
[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program, 2008]

In 2007-08, the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program served a total of approximately 14,000 clients, an increase of about 2,000 over 2006-07 and about the same number as in 2005-06.

The Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program assists Aboriginal accused to better understand their rights, options and responsibilities when appearing in criminal justice courts. Courtworkers provide services, such as explaining court process, assisting families of accused and directing clients to counselling and treatment programs.

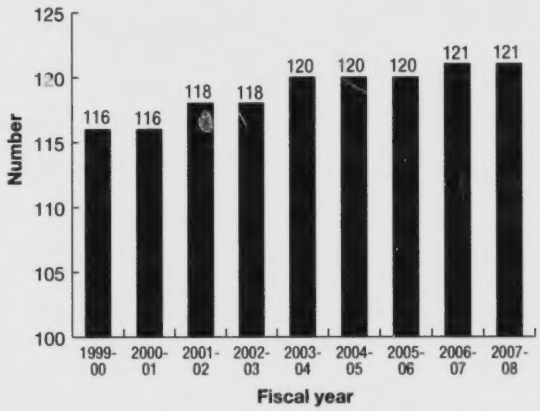
Changing demographics of the client base greatly influences the number of clients served. As demand increases in the North, adjustments to service delivery need to be made. The increased number of specialized courts may affect the length of time that must be spent with individual clients.

The Ministry has a moderate level of influence over this performance measure. Although funded by the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and Justice Canada, courtworker services are delivered through Aboriginal organizations with responsibility for staffing and budget. A factor that has an impact on this measure is funding availability from the federal government.

Community engagement
Number of communities participating in community justice activities with the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General

Progress to date
121 (2007-08)

Communities engaged in crime prevention activities with Justice and Attorney General, 1999-00 to 2007-08



(Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Community Service Branch)

The number of communities engaged in crime prevention activities with the Ministry has remained fairly constant for the last five years. The number of communities partnering with the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General to offer justice-related programs provides a measure of community engagement in community justice activities. These programs include community justice programs, victim services programs, crime prevention programs and family violence prevention programs.

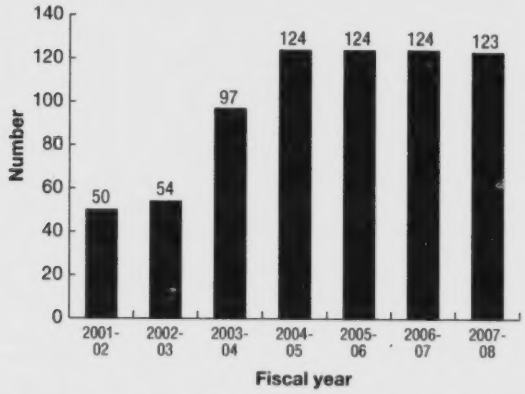
Implementation of the community-based model the Ministry uses to promote community justice takes time. Community readiness is a critical factor because the community has a vital role in developing these programs to support a response to criminal behaviour and victimization that meets locally determined needs.

The Ministry continues to have success with this model and has a high level of influence over this measure since it often initiates community participation.

Participation in community justice program delivery
Number of people working in Justice-funded community justice programs delivered by Aboriginal organizations

Progress to date
123 (2007-08)

Number of people working in Justice-funded community justice programs delivered by Aboriginal organizations, 2001-02 to 2007-08



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Community Services Branch, 2008]

One hundred and twenty-three people were employed in community justice programs funded by Justice and Attorney General and delivered by Aboriginal organizations in 2007-08. This is an increase of 73 people over 2001-02 and has remained constant over the past four years. Although the move of Law Enforcement Services to the Ministry of Corrections, Public and Safety and Policing reduced this measure by four positions, an increase of three community justice worker positions resulted in a loss of only one position over 2006-07.

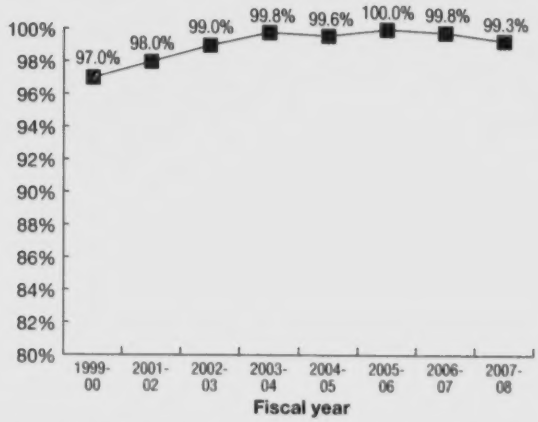
The Ministry uses a community-based approach for its programming in Aboriginal communities. This measure includes data from community justice programs, the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program, First Nations Policing, Aboriginal Resource Officers Program, Aboriginal Family Violence Programs and Urban Aboriginal Crime Prevention Programs. The people working in these programs are not employees of the Ministry, but work in Ministry-funded programs.

The Ministry places great emphasis on the need for Aboriginal organizations to employ Aboriginal people to deliver services. Aboriginal people indicate that they have more confidence in programs delivered by Aboriginal service deliverers and organizations because those programs allow for cultural distinctiveness and provide positive role models.

Efficiency of response
Per cent of telephone inquiries from consumers responded to within one business day

Progress to date
99.3% (2007-08)

Telephone inquiries from consumers responded to within one business day



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Consumer Protection Branch, 2008]

The Consumer Protection Branch continues to respond in a timely manner to the questions and concerns of consumers received by telephone. The Branch responded to 99.3 per cent of the telephone inquiries from consumers within one business day. It continues to maintain the high standard set in previous years.

Conducting service in a timely manner indicates that the branch is responsive to consumers and businesses and meets their expectations, thereby protecting their interests. The Ministry has a high level of influence over this measure.

Employment diversity
Per cent of Justice employees who self-identify as Aboriginal

Progress to date
10.9% (2007-08)
[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Human Resources Branch, 2008]

At 10.9 per cent in 2007-08, this measure has increased each year since 2002-03 when the baseline was established at 4.5 per cent. Although the increase was modest in 2007-08 (0.2 per cent), it must be recognized that this was due, in part, to the organizational change of moving law enforcement services, including Aboriginal policing, to the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing.

Aboriginal people want to be more involved in working within the justice system to ensure programs are culturally relevant and responsive. Having individuals from the Aboriginal community working within the Ministry to ensure the interests of Aboriginal peoples are understood and incorporated into program development and implementation increases the confidence of Aboriginal people in the justice system.

The Ministry has a moderate level of influence over this measure. Justice often designates positions it advertises. It has no control over the qualified applicants who apply.

Quality of return rate on investments
Per cent difference between the four-year average rate of return on client assets invested by the Office of Public Guardian and Trustee and the benchmark identified in the Investment Policy[2]

Progress to date
0.9% over benchmark (2007-08)
[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Office of Public Guardian and Trustee]

The actual four-year average rate of return was 0.9 per cent over the benchmark set by the Office of Public Guardian and Trustee in 2007-08, similar to the result for 2006-07 (0.5 per cent) and to other years. This small variance between expected and actual results demonstrates the reliability of the process used to set the benchmark each year.

One of the primary functions of the Office of Public Guardian and Trustee is to invest the assets it holds in trust for its clients. The main objective is to meet or outperform a benchmark portfolio constructed from rates of return on a variety of indexes[3]. Although the Office of Public Guardian and Trustee has a comprehensive Investment Policy that it uses to select and guide the investment firm, market fluctuations have a significant impact on this performance measure. Additional information on the Public Trustee and Guardian, including key actions and performance measures, is available in its annual report at www.justice.gov.sk.ca/publications.

Healthy, Active Families

The theme of healthy, active families is related to key commitments of the following Ministry Divisions and program areas: Dispute Resolution; and Family Justice Services.

The Ministry provides dispute resolution mechanisms that resolve civil matters in constructive and appropriate ways. The Ministry also provides a range of family mediation services to assist parents undergoing a separation or divorce in resolving issues relating to child custody and access, parenting matters, child and spousal support, and the division of matrimonial property. A key element of conflict resolution is the meaningful engagement of interested parties. This means making dispute resolution mechanisms available that are not alienating and mystifying and ensuring that the values and interests of both parties are fully understood and fairly considered.

As well, to assist children and families dealing with the difficulties of family breakdown and separation, the Ministry provides family justice services that include assistance in the enforcement of maintenance payments, parent education programs and children's education for separating or divorcing families, programs for victims of family violence, custody and access assessments, and supervised access and exchange. The Ministry also has a Family Law Information Centre for the public. The Centre is also a place where parents can obtain help to fill out self-help variation kits, child calculation forms or financial disclosure forms. Where other services are necessary, referrals will be made to appropriate resources. As well, Justice and Attorney General supports the delivery of legal aid services to low-income persons in family law matters. These services help people involved in family disputes deal with difficulties in the healthiest way possible.

Key Commitments and Results

- To improve access to effective dispute resolution processes, the Ministry will expand the mandatory civil mediation program to additional judicial centres.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Initial planning completed with consultation and implementation deferred to 2008-09.
  - In 2007-08, the Dispute Resolution Office of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney

2 The goal is to meet or exceed the benchmark established in the investment policy. The benchmark is derived from a series of market indicators for investment returns. It is usually a positive number. This performance measure strives to meet the benchmark, which is, in effect, a very positive result.

3 This includes the Toronto Stock Exchange 300 (capped 10 per cent) Index (as measured by CPMS), the Standard & Poor's 500 Index (in Canadian dollars), the Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australia, Far East (EAFE) Index (in Canadian dollars), the Scotia Capital Universe Bond Index and 91-day Canada Treasury Bills.

General continued with the two-year pilot of the Access Facilitation Project which helps low-income parents resolve child access issues with the assistance of a team of parenting, legal and conflict resolution professionals. Also in 2007-08, the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench, in partnership with the Dispute Resolution Office, piloted the High Conflict Case Conference and Mediation Project. The project helps high-conflict families resolve parenting issues with the assistance of a Queen's Bench Judge and a mediator.

- To improve the use of dispute resolution processes in courts, the Ministry will develop a plan to increase information on civil mediation available to the legal profession and judiciary.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - In 2007-08, the Dispute Resolution Office of the Ministry of Justice developed preliminary plans for improvements to existing civil mediation resources, including a revised brochure and upgrades to the Dispute Resolution Office web page with linkages to related resources. The completion of improvements to the civil mediation materials and distribution of the revised materials to the legal profession and the judiciary will take place in 2008-09.

- To improve the effectiveness of support services for families, the Ministry will explore ways to assist families in resolving access disputes, reducing access conflict and developing appropriate parenting plans.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Three Access to Justice Committees (Family and Youth; Northern; and Unrepresented Litigants) were formed in 2006-07. The Ministry's partners on these three Committees included the judiciary, the legal community, other Saskatchewan government ministries and agencies, Aboriginal communities, the RCMP and Justice Canada.
  - In fall 2007, the Ministry and its partners finished the work of the Family and Youth Access to Justice Committee. The final report that will be released in early 2008-09 includes consideration of access to family justice services, particularly in the North and rural areas.

- To improve the effectiveness of support services for families, the Ministry will explore options to replace the Maintenance Enforcement data management system.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry has reviewed options to replace the Maintenance Enforcement data management system. A plan for the system's possible replacement will be finalized in 2008-09. In addition, the Ministry has added the capacity for direct deposit by payers and direct withdrawal by claimants. Employers also now have the ability to direct deposit garnishments.

- To support families in the resolution of disputes, the Ministry will review the needs of self-represented litigants and other family members in family law cases, and develop responses.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Northern; Family and Youth; and Unrepresented Litigants Access to Justice Committees finished their work in fall 2007. The Committees' final reports include deliberation around unrepresented litigants in family law matters and child protection process issues, including the representation of children. As previously stated, the final reports of these two Committees will be released early in 2008-09.

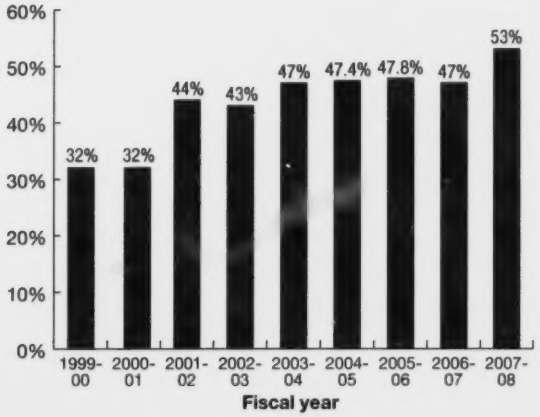
- The Ministry will continue to consult with the Aboriginal community concerning their needs and expectations in the area of family law and family justice services as part of the action plan following from the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Northern and Family and Youth Access to Justice committees completed their work in fall 2007. The final reports, to be released early in 2008-09, include consideration of Aboriginal and northern family law concerns.

Measurement Results

Effectiveness of civil dispute resolution processes
Per cent of civil cases resolved following mandatory civil mediation

Progress to date
53% (2007-08)

Civil cases resolved following mandatory mediation



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Family Justice Services, 2008]

Resolving civil matters through mandatory civil mediation is a more expeditious way of dealing with civil cases. It reserves the court for more serious matters. As shown on the graph, there has been a gradual increase over the years in the per cent cases resolved through civil mediation. The consistency in the level of civil cases resolved following mandatory civil mediation is attributable to the ongoing proactive case work carried out by the Dispute Resolution Office mediation staff, together with legal counsel for the parties.

The measure depends on variables out of the Ministry's control, such as the length of time the dispute has existed, effectiveness of lawyers representing the parties, mediator skills and willingness of the parties to participate.

Access to civil dispute resolution processes
Average length of time from pre-trial to next available trial date for civil proceedings in the Court of Queen's Bench

Progress to date
90 days (2007-08)
[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Court Services, 2008]

Timeliness of the court process is critical in improving access to the courts for the public and improving the effectiveness of the courts in serving the public.

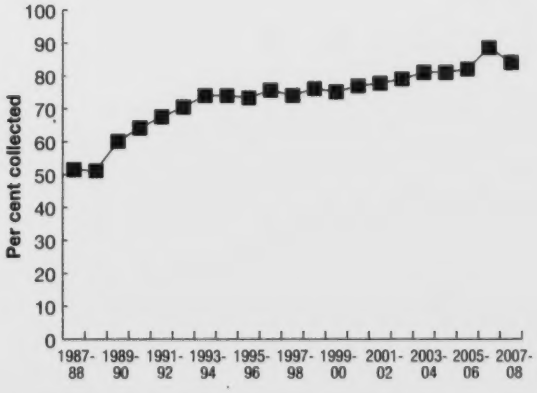
The 90-day average time period between pretrial and the next available trial date for civil proceedings in Court of Queen's Bench has been maintained since 1999-2000, when the baseline for this measure was established. This time period is considered appropriate by all stakeholders. Occasionally, a court date may be available sooner than 90 days; however, the parties may choose to use the 90-day time period to reflect on the issues and, on occasion, work towards a resolution of the problem prior to trial.

The Ministry has a high level of influence over this measure.

Effectiveness of programs supporting resiliency of children and families
Per cent collected of maintenance enforcement orders and agreements referred to the Maintenance Enforcement Office

Progress to date
84% (2007-08)

Collection rates of maintenance enforcement orders and agreements referred to the MEO, 1988-89 to 2007-08



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Maintenance Enforcement Office, 2008]

Maintenance enforcement orders and agreements for financial support occur following a divorce or separation. The health and well-being of the families depend on timely receipt of support income to which they are entitled.

For the past five years, the Maintenance Enforcement Office has maintained a collection

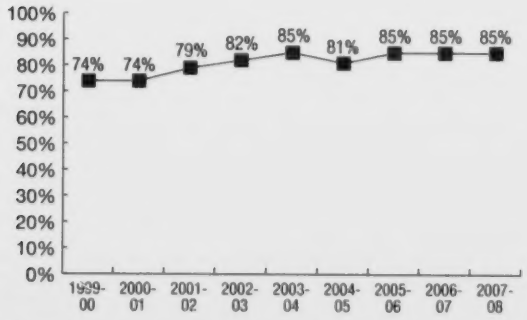
rate of over 80 per cent. In 2007-08, at 84 per cent, Saskatchewan had the second highest collection rate in Canada and the Ministry collected $29.01 million.

The Ministry has a high level of influence over this measure. It is always looking for innovative ways to ensure the successful collection of monies owed.

Effectiveness of programs to support resiliency of children and families
Per cent of cases resolved following custody and access assessment

Progress to date
85% (2007-08)

Cases resolved following custody and access assessment



[Source: Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Family Justice Services, 2008]

The Ministry promotes resilient children and families through custody and access assessments that are conducted prior to the issue going to court. The health and well-being of families depends on effective and efficient means to resolve disputes about custody and access.

For the last three years, the percentage of cases resolved following custody and access assessments has been maintained at 85 per cent. The resolution of custody and access issues without having to go back to court reduces costs for the parties involved and the court system, and promotes the health and well-being of children and their families.

The Ministry has a moderate level of influence over this measure. Although custody and access assessment can be provided in a timely effective way, it has no control over participant attitudes and conduct.

Legal and Policy Services

The Ministry is committed in all of its operations to the rule of law. It carries out the traditional role of the Attorney General in maintaining the rule of law and seeing that the administration of public affairs is in accordance with the law. One important aspect of this role is the provision of legal and policy advice and services to Government.

The Ministry provides legal and policy services to which the key commitments of the following Ministry divisions and branches relate: Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch; Civil Law; Public Law; Financial Services Commission; Access to Privacy Branch; and Corporations Branch.

Key Commitments and Results

- To support an improved environment for business and consumers, the Ministry will participate in a national commercial law reform initiative.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry continued to participate in the national commercial law reform initiative.
- To improve investor protection, the Ministry will implement the securities legislation introduced to provide civil liability remedies for fraud or misrepresentation in secondary market disclosure and a financial compensation regime enabling the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission to order the repayment for investors who have suffered losses as a result of a person/company contravening securities laws, in addition to other changes related to implementation of the passport system.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Provisions to provide civil liability remedies for fraud or misrepresentation in secondary market disclosure came into force on February 15, 2008. Provisions providing a financial compensation regime enabling the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission to order repayment for investors who have suffered losses as a result of a person/company contravening securities law came into force on January 1, 2008. Other changes related to the implementation of the passport system came into force in early 2008.
- To enhance the effectiveness of the criminal justice system, the Ministry will take steps to analyze and implement changes to federal criminal law in areas such as sentencing and

criminal process reform.
(2007-08 planned result)

- The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General supported the implementation of federal law reform regarding the availability of conditional sentences and the expansion of access to DNA of convicted offenders. It planned for the early 2008 implementation of the federal Bill C-2, the *Tackling Violent Crime Act*.

- To improve ministerial and government responses to missing persons cases, the Ministry will implement and support reforms to improve the province-wide response to missing persons cases.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - In fall 2007, the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons issued its final report with more than 20 areas of concern. The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General continued to support the work of the Committee.

- To assist in addressing the underlying causes of crime, the Ministry will continue to play an active role in interministerial strategies such as the Cognitive Disabilities Strategy, the Interministerial Committee on Child Sexual Exploitation (co-chair) and the Interministerial Committee on Interpersonal Violence and Abuse (co-chair).
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry continued to take an active role in the development and implementation of these initiatives at the interministerial and regional levels.

- To build positive inter-community race relations, the Ministry will work with other ministries and the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission to continue to implement the provincial strategy to address racism.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - In 2006-07, in collaboration with other ministries and agencies, the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General prepared a draft provincial anti-racism strategy. In 2007-08, consultations on the draft strategy were held with government ministries and a wide range of groups, including community organizations, immigrant groups, Aboriginal organizations, and women, seniors, youth, business, labour, educational and municipal organizations.

- To assess the impact of the Aboriginal Justice Strategy, the Ministry will implement the evaluation framework developed as part of the Action Plan following the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - Justice and Attorney General continued to lead the response to the recommendations of the Commission.

- To support the resilience of children and families, the Ministry will continue to work provincially and nationally to develop uniform parentage legislation dealing with artificial human reproduction.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - Justice and Attorney General co-chaired a national committee with the Uniform Law Conference of Canada to improve family law/justice services to support children and families. This Committee will continue to examine the issues in 2008-09.

- To ensure the government's need for legal services is being met at an appropriate level, the Ministry will undertake an analysis of the government's need for legal services and the current structure for delivery of those services.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - This review was postponed.

- To ensure lawyers continue to develop and improve their skills in delivering quality legal services, the Ministry will continue to monitor standards for continuing legal education.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry provides funding to the Saskatchewan Crown Counsel Association and the Saskatchewan Crown Attorney Association to support continuing legal education (CLE) sessions. It also encourages Crown counsel to attend further CLE events sponsored by the Canadian Bar Association and the Saskatchewan Legal Education Society Inc., where relevant and where time is available.

- To ensure we are meeting our clients' needs, the Ministry will monitor standards for timeliness in responding to client requests for legal services.
(2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry continues to monitor the standard for timeliness established for the past two fiscal years.

- To assist clients in identifying, avoiding and resolving legal problems, the Ministry will implement the plan to deliver client education opportunities.
(2007-08 planned result)

- The lawyers continue to respond to client requests to provide client education.

- To ensure access and privacy officers in government receive quality procedural advice and direction, the Ministry will promote the Access and Privacy Branch as a first point of contact for questions related to access and privacy.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry continues to raise the profile of the Access and Privacy Branch in its education and training in government and local authorities, in communications tools designed to raise awareness of access and privacy rights and responsibilities, with a raised profile on the Ministry's web site, and with continued support and advice directly to access and privacy officials in government and local authorities.

- To assist access and privacy officials to support government's commitment to access to records and to privacy protection, the Ministry will develop access and privacy tools (such as checklists and guidelines) for use of government ministries.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry released several new tools including: *Privacy Breach Management Guidelines* for use across government; a set of template letters to help respond to access requests under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; a "Help With FOIP" series of documents for use by access and privacy practitioners in government; and, a first edition of a CD-ROM containing many of these new tools. Additional tools were also under development during 2007-08.

- To increase knowledge and awareness in government of access and privacy issues, the Ministry will provide educational packages to government to help train employees, in general, and access and privacy officials, in particular.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - The Ministry provided general awareness and training sessions upon request throughout government. The Ministry also held two Access and Privacy Forums in 2007-08 for government employees working in the area and held a Workshop Day in October to provide detailed training to employees new to the area of access and privacy.

- To support local authorities, the Ministry will work with the Ministries of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour, Education, Intergovernmental Affairs and Health to develop appropriate strategies for providing access and privacy tools and training to the local authorities with which those ministries work closely.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - With the co-operation of the Ministries of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour, Education, Intergovernmental Affairs and Health, the Ministry launched an on-line access and privacy training course for local authorities in Spring 2007; delivered regional training sessions for *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* in six locations throughout the province in fall 2007, with approximately 225 local authorities taking advantage of the training; provided advice and support to local authorities upon request; and the Ministry made itself available for training for specific local authorities upon request.

- To improve the corporate governance of non-profit corporations by its directors and officers, the Ministry will continue to work with the voluntary sector to develop improved awareness and training programs and will promote and distribute an interactive tutorial on corporate governance.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - In progress

- To support the Council of Ministers on Securities Regulation, the Ministry, together with the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission, will implement the passport system.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - Phase 2 of the passport system, which provided additional investor protection and enforcement tools for securities regulators, was implemented.

- To better protect investors and the integrity of Canada's capital markets, the Ministry and the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission will work both intra- and inter-provincially with other jurisdictions, Crowns, police, and securities regulators to examine matters related to enforcement of securities-related fraud and other commercial crime activities and to act to enhance resources to support securities enforcement.
  (2007-08 planned result)
  - In progress

Measurement Results

Timeliness
Per cent of requests for legal services responded to within the timelines agreed to by clients

Progress to date
Data not available

Responding to client requests for service within the timelines agreed to is an important aspect of legal practice. As such, staff lawyers within the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General may agree to informal timelines with their clients that depend, among other things, on the nature of the advice requested, the complexity of the matter and other matters that are being dealt with by the same lawyer.

Although this measure was identified in the 2007-08 Performance Plan, data collection methodology has not yet been identified. Therefore, no data is available at this time.

Quality of legal services
Average number of hours of continuing legal education per lawyer annually

Progress to date
37.17 hours (2007-08)

Lawyer participation in legal education opportunities assists in maintaining quality legal services. It is important for lawyers, like all professionals, to keep up with changes to law and legal procedure in order to provide quality legal services to clients. One of many ways in which lawyers may keep current with legal and procedural changes is to attend continuing legal education sessions. These include sessions offered by the Canadian Bar Association and the Saskatchewan Legal Education Society Inc., as well as sessions that the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General itself supports.

Client education
Number of hours of client education provided annually

Progress to date
Data not available

Client education about ways to identify, avoid and resolve their legal problems is provided by the Ministry to its clients. This will assist in ensuring more cost effective services.

Although this measure was identified in the 2007-08 Performance Plan, data collection methodology has not yet been identified. Therefore, no data is available at this time.

Client satisfaction
Per cent of clients satisfied with the access and privacy services of the Ministry

Progress to date
Under development (2007-08)

The Access and Privacy Branch provides primarily client-oriented services. This measure will track the reaction of clients to the overall level of the Branch's service.

The Ministry has a moderate to high level of influence over this measure.

Efficiency of response
- *Per cent of incorporations, registrations and fundamental changes of all types processed on paper within five business days*
- *Per cent of incorporations, business registrations and fundamental changes of all types processed electronically*

Progress to date
12% (2007-08)
62% (2007-08)

Conducting service in a timely manner indicates that the branch is responsive to consumers and businesses and meets their expectations, thereby protecting their interests. The Ministry has a high level of influence over this measure.

2007-08 Financial Overview

The Ministry's original 2007-08 expenditure budget (appropriation) was $249.475 million, including $4.362 million for capital asset acquisitions and $246.213 million on an expense basis. The expense budget excludes the $4.362 million appropriation for the Ministry to acquire capital assets and includes $1.1 million for the amortization of capital assets.

The Government's reorganization of November 21, 2007 transferred responsibilities for the Police Commission, Law Enforcement Services, RCMP and Police Programs to Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, the Farm Land Security Board to Agriculture and the Surface Rights Arbitration Board to Energy and Resources. These programs, and the budget appropriation of $119.468 million, will be shown in the Annual Report of the respective Ministries for 2007-08. The revised appropriation for the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General is $130.007 million.

For 2007-08, actual expenses were $132.396 million; a variance of $2.389 million greater than the revised Appropriation. In summary, the increased costs are attributable to:

- implementation of a new classification plan for Crown attorneys;
- hiring additional staff to address workload pressures in several programs;
- an increase in court-appointed counsel; and
- development of the final report for the Milgaard Inquiry and participation in the judicial review of the Stonechild Inquiry.

These costs were partially offset by reduced spending in the coroners program due to delayed implementation of the modernization program and vacancy and operational savings in other programs. Through the Supplementary Estimates and Special Warrant processes, additional funding was provided to the Ministry to offset the budgetary pressures.

In the fall of 2007, the Legislature approved an additional $2.512 million as Supplementary Estimates. In the spring of 2008, an additional $1.375 million was authorized by Special Warrant. Additional statutory funding of $208,000 was provided for Salaries Provincial Court Judges, as authorized by law.

Supplementary Estimates funding of $2.512 million was provided to offset expenditures related to:

- Developing detailed plans for new court facilities and the implementation of perimeter security screening program in courts $800,000
- Implementation of a new compensation program for Crown attorneys $593,000
- Support the completion of the Milgaard Inquiry $500,000
- Increased casework in Public Guardian and Trustee, as well as additional staff for court security and increased costs for court-appointed counsel $469,000
- Hiring two additional securities fraud investigators $150,000

Special Warrant funding of $1.375 million was provided for expenditures related to:

- Consolidation of information technology services into the centralized service delivery model $300,000
- Increased costs for court-appointed counsel and to address workload pressures in Court Services $300,000
- Outside legal counsel and additional salary and benefit costs for out-of-scope staff in Prosecutions $225,000
- Development of the final report for the Milgaard Inquiry and participation in the judicial review of the Stonechild Inquiry $420,000
- Hiring additional staff in the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission to address workload pressures $130,000

Expense results by sub-vote and program area are summarized in subsequent pages of the Annual Report.

The 2007-08 revenue budget was $58.5 million. The Government's re-organization of November 21, 2007 transferred responsibilities some programs to the Ministries of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, Agriculture, and Energy and Resources. The budgeted revenue of $14.2 million related to these programs will be shown in the Annual Report of the respective Ministries for 2007-08. The revised revenue budget for the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General is $44.3 million.

Actual revenue was $48.8 million or $4.5 million greater than the budget. The additional revenue is a result of an increase in activities related to securities and corporate filings and fines ordered through the Courts. Revenue results are summarized in subsequent pages of this report.

The 2007-08 Full-time Equivalent (FTE) budget was 959.1 FTEs. Due to the re-organization of Government, 37.5 FTEs were transferred to other Ministries. This included 28.5 to Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, 7.0 to Agriculture and 2.0 to Energy and Resources. The revised budget was 921.6 FTES, with actual FTE utilization of 937.9 for the year. The FTE utilization was 16.3 FTEs over the revised budget. Additional staff was required to address workload pressures in Courts and Public Prosecutions and were partially offset by vacancies in Coroners and Human Resources.

Expenditures

In November 2007, the responsibility for most police functions was transferred to the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing (CPSP). The transfer of police programs to CPSP will further strengthen the partnership between the lead ministries in the criminal justice system. As well, two smaller programs, the Farm Land Security Board and the Surface Rights Arbitration Board were transferred to Agriculture and Energy and Resources respectively. Program highlights and financial data for the transferred programs will be shown in the Annual Report of the respective Ministries for 2007-08.

The expense results for the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General are summarized in the following table:

2007-08 Financial Results - Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by sub-vote and sub-program. Explanations are provided where variances are greater than $100,000.

(thousands of dollars)

Sub-vote	Sub-Program	Original Estimate	Restated Estimate	Actual Expenditures	Variance to Restated Estimate	Notes
Central Management and Services	Executive Management	$780	$780	$999	$219	1
	Central Services	6,143	6,143	6,308	165	2
	Accommodation Services	14,775	14,775	14,107	(668)	3
Total CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AND SERVICES		**$21,698**	**$21,698**	**$21,414**	**($284)**	
Courts and Civil Justice	Court Services	25,000	25,000	26,728	1,728	4
	Dispute Resolution	1,566	1,566	1,605	39	
	Family Justice Services	3,366	3,366	3,144	(222)	5
	Public Guardian and Trustee	2,239	2,239	2,392	153	6
	Salaries - Provincial Court Judges	10,760	10,760	10,968	208	7
Total COURTS AND CIVIL JUSTICE		**$42,931**	**$42,931**	**$44,837**	**$1,906**	
Legal and Policy Services	Access and Privacy	321	321	278	(43)	
	Civil Law	3,228	3,228	3,396	168	8
	Communications	576	576	406	(170)	9
	Policy, Planning and Evaluation	1,241	1,241	1,120	(121)	10
	Public Law	3,054	3,054	3,003	(51)	
	Public Prosecutions	14,579	14,579	16,014	1,435	11
	Queen's Printer - Net Financing Requirement	19	19	(16)	(35)	
	Queen's Printer - Subsidy	148	148	148	–	
Total LEGAL AND POLICY SERVICES		**$23,166**	**$23,166**	**$24,349**	**$1,226**	
Community Justice	Community Services	6,660	6,660	6,500	(160)	12
	Coroners	2,815	2,815	1,949	(866)	13
	Public Complaints Commission	683	683	539	(144)	14
	Police Programs	6,880	*Programs transferred to Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing*			
	Law Enforcement Services	1,889				
	Police Commission	828				
	Royal Canadian Mounted Police	108,866				
Total COMMUNITY JUSTICE		**$128,621**	**$10,158**	**$8,988**	**($1,170)**	
Marketplace Regulation	Consumer Protection	819	819	800	(19)	
	Corporations	1,839	1,839	1,944	105	15
	Sask. Financial Services Commission	2,561	2,561	2,586	25	
	Land Titles Assurance Claims	25	25	1	(24)	
Total MARKETPLACE REGULATION		**$5,244**	**$5,244**	**$5,331**	**$87**	
Boards and Commissions	Automobile Injury Appeal Commission	879	879	728	(151)	16
	Farm Land Security Board	851	*Transferred to Ministry of Agriculture*			
	Inquiries	325	325	1,414	1,089	17
	Legal Aid Commission	18,561	18,561	18,596	35	
	Rentalsman/Provincial Mediation Board	1,186	1,186	1,175	(11)	
	Human Rights Commission	1,609	1,609	1,753	144	18
	Surface Rights Arbitration Board	154	*Transferred to Ministry of Energy and Resources*			
Total BOARDS & COMMISSIONS		**$23,565**	**$22,560**	**$23,666**	**$1,106**	
Courts Capital	Courts Capital	4,250	4,250	3,811	(439)	19
Total COURTS CAPITAL		**$4,250**	**$4,250**	**$3,811**	**($439)**	
INITIAL APPROPRIATION AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES		**$249,475**	**$130,007**	**$132,396**	**$2,389**	
Supplementary Estimates (approved in Fall 2007)			2,512		(2,512)	20
Special Warrant Funding			1,375		(1,375)	21
Statutory Funding – Salaries Provincial Court Judges			208		(208)	22
TOTAL JUSTICE APPROPRIATION		**$249,475**	**$134,102**	**$132,396**	**($1,706)**	
Capital Asset Acquisitions		(4,362)	(4,362)	(3,750)	612	23
Capital Asset Amortization		1,100	1,100	542	(558)	24
TOTAL JUSTICE EXPENSE		**$246,213**	**$130,840**	**$129,188**	**($1,652)**	

Explanation of major variances:

1. Severance for former Minister's staff and increased salary costs.
2. Integration of information technology services into the centralized delivery model partially offset by vacancy savings.
3. Cost of space leased through Government Services lower than anticipated.
4. Increased costs for court security, workload pressures and court-appointed counsel/psychiatric assessments.
5. Vacancy savings.
6. Additional staff to address workload pressures.
7. Increase in vacation leave liability and costs related to the disability plan.
8. Increased costs for outside legal counsel.
9. Vacancy savings.
10. Research projects begun later than anticipated.
11. Implementation of new classification plan for Crown Attorneys and additional staff to address workload pressures in Docket Court.
12. Vacancy savings and delayed start on program implementation.
13. Vacancy savings and delayed implementation of the coroners modernization program.
14. Reduced program activity and operational savings.
15. Increased operational costs.
16. Vacancy and operational savings.
17. Additional costs to complete the Milgaard Inquiry and to participate in the judicial review of the Stonechild Inquiry.
18. Additional staff to address workload pressures.
19. Reduced capital spending as projects not completed by year end due to late start on projects.
20. Additional funding for Courts capital, Milgaard Inquiry, Public Prosecutions and Court Services.
21. Additional funding for Central Services, Court Services, Public Prosecutions, Milgaard Inquiry and Human Rights Commission.
22. Additional statutory funding for Judges salaries and benefits as provided by law.
23. Reduced capital acquisitions due to later than anticipated start on capital projects.
24. Amortization of capital assets less than anticipated.

Detailed payee information will be published in Volume 2 of the 2007-08 Public Accounts.

Revenues

The Ministry collects revenues related to fines, licenses and service fees on behalf of the Government and receives funding from the federal government related to Legal Aid and other cost-shared programs. Revenue results are summarized in the following table:

2007-08 Financial Results – Revenue

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted revenues by revenue description. Explanations are provided for all variances greater than $100,000.

			(thousands of dollars)		
Description	**Original Budget**	**Revised Budget**	**Actual Revenue**	**Variance to Restated Budget**	**Notes**
Privileges, Licenses & Permits	$7,939	$7,866	$8,952	$1,086	1
Sales, Services & Service Fees	18,877	18,772	21,025	2,253	2
Fines, Forfeits & Penalties	10,198	10,183	11,202	1,019	3
Interest, Discount, Premium	67	67	19	(48)	
Receipts From Other Governments	20,295	6,235	6,585	350	4
Receipts From Crown Entities	891	891	787	(104)	5
Other Revenue	271	271	272	1	
Ministry Revenue	**$58,538**	**$44,285**	**$48,842**	**$4,557**	

Explanation of major variances:

1. Increase in non-registered insurance policy premiums and corporate returns.
2. Increase in securities related activities within the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission.
3. Increase in fines ordered.
4. Increase in Federal revenue related to Drug Treatment Court cost share claim.
5. Reduced recovery from SGI due to reduced expenditures in the Automobile Injury Appeal Commission.

For More Information

Revolving Funds and Special Purpose Accounts

The Ministry is responsible for managing and operating the following revolving or special purpose funds:

- Queen's Printer Revolving Fund
- Victims' Fund

Information regarding the 2007-08 business activities of these funds can be found in Appendix C of this annual report. The financial statements for these funds can be found at the Ministry web site: **www.justice.gov.sk.ca**

This report provides information about both our accomplishments and our future plans. If you have any questions or comments, or would like additional copies of this report, we invite you to call (306) 787-7872.

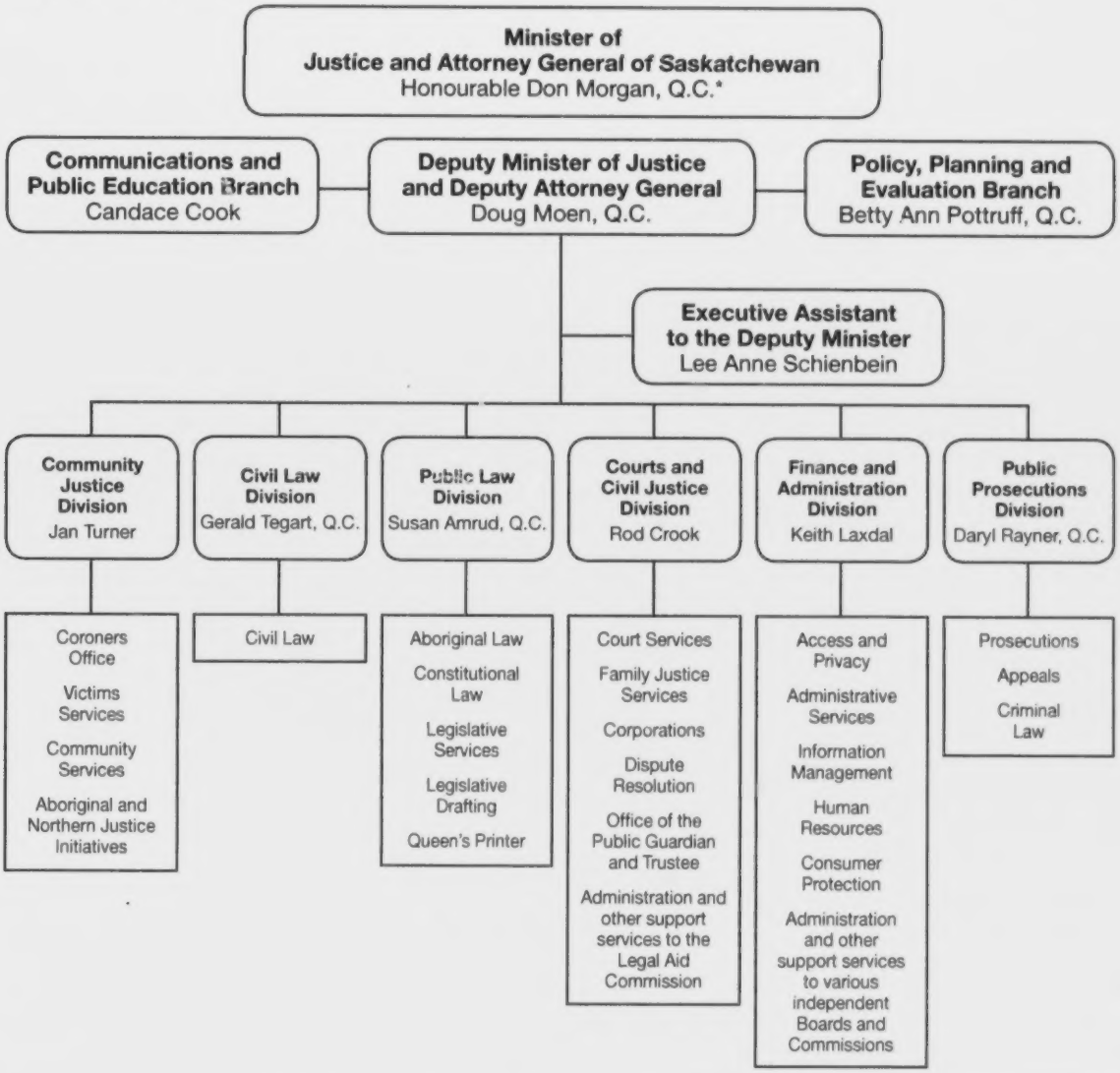
or contact:

Ministry of Justice and Attorney General
Communications and Public Education Branch
1000 - 1874 Scarth Street
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 4B3

Or send us an e-mail through the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General web site: www.justice.gov.sk.ca

Appendix A: Organizational Chart

as of March 31, 2008



*** Also responsible for:**

- Aboriginal Court Worker Advisory Committee
- Automobile Injury Appeal Commission
- Commission of Inquiry into the Wrongful Conviction of David Milgaard
- Co-operative Securities Board
- Film Classification Appeal Board
- Human Rights Commission
- Law Reform Commission
- Legal Aid Commission
- Office of Residential Tenancies
- Provincial Mediation Board
- Public Complaints Commission
- Public and Private Rights Board
- Saskatchewan Advisory Board of Review
- Saskatchewan Human Rights Tribunal
- Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission
- Victims Compensation Appeal Committee

Appendix B: Boards and Commissions

The Minister of Justice and Attorney General is responsible for a number of boards and commissions that receive varying levels of administrative and policy support from the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, including:

- Automobile Injury Appeal Commission
- Commission of Inquiry into the Wrongful Conviction of David Milgaard
- Co-operative Securities Board
- Film Classification Appeal Committee
- Film Classification Board
- Human Rights Commission
- Law Reform Commission
- Legal Aid Commission
- Office of Residential Tenancies
- Provincial Mediation Board
- Public Complaints Commission
- Public Disclosure Committee
- Public and Private Rights Board
- Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission
- Saskatchewan Human Rights Tribunal
- Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission

Most of these boards and commissions produce and table their own annual reports. However, the following agencies have very brief annual reports, which are included in this document to accommodate the tabling requirements and reduce printing costs:

- Automobile Injury Appeal Commission
- Provincial Mediation Board
- Office of Residential Tenancies

Automobile Injury Appeal Commission

The Automobile Injury Appeal Commission was established on January 1, 2003 as an independent, quasi-judicial administrative tribunal responsible for hearing appeals under the Personal Injury Protection Plan for injuries sustained in motor vehicle accidents, regardless of fault. The plan is administered by Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI).

When people are not satisfied with a personal injury benefits decision made by SGI under the no fault system, they can file an appeal with either the Court of Queen's Bench or the Commission. In either case, there is a time limit to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed either 90 days from the date of SGI's decision or, if mediation was elected, 60 days from the date mediation was completed.

Claimants filing an appeal to the Commission pay a $75 application fee. If this causes substantial hardship, claimants may ask the Commission to waive the fee by filing a Certificate of Substantial Hardship. The fee, if paid, is refunded if the claimant is successful. Once the claimant and SGI have filed all documents relevant to an appeal, the Commission gives written notice of the hearing date, time and location. Hearings are regularly held in Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina. Documents are then packaged and presented to assist the parties and appeal panel in reviewing the documentary evidence. Claimants can represent themselves or have their lawyers present their case to the Commission. In approximately two out of every three appeals, claimants are self-represented.

Both the claimant and SGI have the right to examine and cross-examine any witness. If necessary, either party can arrange to have a witness subpoenaed to attend the hearing. Witnesses can testify by telephone if they are unable to attend the hearing in person.

The Commission interprets the law and the regulations governing no fault benefits. It has the authority to set aside, confirm or vary benefit decisions made by SGI under the no fault benefits plan. Written reasons for the Commission's decision are provided to, and binding, on both parties. The decision can be appealed to the Court of Appeal on a question of law only. Transcripts are provided to the parties upon request and at their expense.

Appeal hearings are open to the public and the Commission's decisions are published on its web

site and other legal sites. This practice assists claimants and the general public in knowing more about their entitlement to injury benefits and offers unrepresented claimants an opportunity to become familiar with the hearing process.

Governing legislation:

- *The Automobile Accident Insurance Act, 1995 and 2002*
- *The Personal Injury Benefits Regulations, 1995 and 2002*
- *The Automobile Accident Insurance (Injury) Regulations, 2005*

Budget: $876,000

FTEs: 6.0

2007-08 Program Highlights

- Operational review launched in November 2007.
- Annual Commission member meeting held in December 2007.

Automobile Injury Appeal Commission
Appeals Status (as of March 31, 2008)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Total
Appeals Filed	30	171	179	144	122	125	771
Closed, Withdrawn, Settled	2	49	68	74	49	24	266
Adjourned	2	5	8	8	11	5	39
Hearings Concluded	26	117	101	56	37	6	343
Total Outstanding	0	0	2	6	25	90	123
Decisions Issued	26	116	100	56	37	4	340
Decisions to be Issued	0	1	1	0	0	2	4

Membership of the Commission

- Barbara Tomkins, Regina, Chairperson
- Peter Bergbusch, Regina
- Beverly Cleveland, Regina, Vice-Chairperson
- Pamela Joy Dobko, Saskatoon
- Marjory Gammel, Saskatoon
- Conrad Hnatiuk, Regina
- Carolyn Jones, Saskatoon
- Al Knippel, Saskatoon
- Jane Lancaster, Q.C., Saskatoon
- Jean MacKay, Regina
- Dr. Mukesh Mirchandani, Yorkton
- Carol Olson, Saskatoon
- Stephanie Pfefferle, Saskatoon
- Ann Phillips, Q.C., Regina
- Jeff Scott, Regina
- Darleen Topp, Saskatoon

Provincial Mediation Board and Office of Residential Tenancies

The Provincial Mediation Board offers assistance to individuals and families with personal debt problems by reviewing their financial situation and the options to resolve their crisis. The Board is often able to arrange new repayment plans with creditors with payments channelled through the Board. As well, debtors are encouraged to develop better budgeting habits. The Board is also involved in arranging repayment plans for property tax arrears and giving information on residential foreclosure procedures.

The services of the Provincial Mediation Board are free to the public. More than 700 people accessed the office for help on various debt-related problems this last year. The program is able to assist people across the province, rural and urban. It also returned more than $1.6 million to the credit industry on behalf of debtors. The credit industry returns a portion of this money to the program to assist with the costs of administration.

The Provincial Mediation Board has continued to assist many individuals with outstanding student loans. The program is also partnered with problem gambling treatment programs to give guidance to individuals in resolving the financial fallout that often accompanies the addiction.

The number of people assisted by personal debt repayment plans has decreased significantly over the last few years. Bankruptcy trustees in the province have also noticed fewer filings. This is a sign of better economic times in the province. More than 12 presentations on debt management were made to different groups this year. Monthly presentations were provided for the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Problem Gambling Day Treatment Program.

The Board recognizes that there are changes in the economic demographics of Saskatchewan and it is expected that the number of clients may again decrease. The program will look at complimentary services it can provide to people with debt problems, such as budget training.

Governing legislation:

- *The Provincial Mediation Board Act*
- *The Tax Enforcement Act*
- *The Land Contracts (Actions) Act*
- *The Agricultural Leaseholds Act*
- *The Land Titles Act*
- *The Rural Municipality Act*
- *The Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (Federal)*

Budget: $403,000

FTEs: 6.0

Provincial Mediation Board
2007-08 Statistics

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Debt Repayment files Opened	270	149	72
Files Active at Year End	628	589	366
Payments Received from Debtors for Creditors (million)	$1.9	$1.6	$1.6
Administrative Levy for Province from Debt Mediation	$279,888	$256,780	$238,953
Debtor Assistance Files (counselling only)	272	152	100
Notices of Mortgage Foreclosure/Cancellation of Agreement for Sale	732	700	462
Tax Enforcement Applications Received	729	707	712
Tax Enforcement files in continuous Mediation	834	716	591
Tax Enforcement Fees Received in Year	$19,402	$17,800	$18,580

The Office of Residential Tenancies, provides information to landlords and tenants about residential tenancy rights and obligations. It also provides a quasi-judicial hearing forum for these landlords and tenants.

The public is invited to access the office for information. Residential landlords and tenants may use the hearing forum service.

The Office of Residential Tenancies provided orders on more than 11,000 cases and held more than 7,000 hearings. Our three Information Counsellors responded to more than 30,000 inquiries. Contact was mainly through telephone inquiries. More than a dozen presentations were made to the public on residential landlord and tenant rights.

It is a priority for this office to continue to provide the public with quick access to its services. It is an ongoing task to review our processes to ensure that hearings are both fair and efficient. Decisions are normally rendered within 40 days of a hearing and hearings are scheduled within 40 days of application. Eviction and emergency cases are scheduled within six business days and ordered on within two days of the hearing. Inquiries are also provided in a timely manner. The vast majority of telephone inquiries are responded to within one hour and virtually all inquiries are attended to within two business hours.

The Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 was proclaimed into force March 1, 2007. The Office of Residential Tenancies was challenged through the year by reviewing and fine-tuning its processes that were developed to meet the new legislation. There was also an ongoing need to provide information on the new legislation and processes to the public.

The prosperity that the province is experiencing will affect the rental market in many ways. The Office of Residential Tenancies has to be prepared to deal with the changing scene. Although there might be a slight decrease in applications, the complexity of hearings has increased. There will be continuing consultation with stakeholders.

Governing legislation:

- *The Residential Tenancies Act, 2006*

Budget: $783,000

FTEs: 11.6

Office of Residential Tenancies
2007-08 Statistics

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Total Applications Received	11,438	10,960	10,654
Landlord Applications	10,739	10,294	9,844
Tenant Applications	699	666	810
Number of Security Deposit Applications	5,881	5935	5,540
Fees	$214,060	$211,575	$272,245*

* Fee charges increased

Appendix C: Revolving Funds

Queen's Printer Revolving Fund

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, the Queen's Printer publishes and distributes all legislation, regulations, and other government legislative publications, including:

- *The Saskatchewan Gazette*;
- Tables to Saskatchewan Statutes and Regulations;
- The Saskatchewan Rules of Court (for the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal);
- Private Acts;
- bound annual statutes; and
- the complete set, as well as practice-specific sets, of the consolidated Statutes of Saskatchewan and Regulations of Saskatchewan.

Under the authority of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and subject to *The Queen's Printer's Act* and *The Queen's Printer's Fees Regulations*, the Queen's Printer operates through a revolving fund, and sells its legislative publications and services to achieve the fund's break-even mandate. Significantly self-funded, the Queen's Printer is provided an appropriation from the General Revenue Fund in order to provide free access to all current electronic publications at the Internet web sites of www.qp.gov.sk.ca (Freelaw®) and to provide a publications service at www.publications.gov.sk.ca (Publications Centre).

The main users of paper and electronic publications include:

- municipal/provincial/federal governments;
- law offices;
- colleges/universities;
- industry-specific groups (e.g., associations and oil and gas companies);
- libraries; and
- business/corporate.

Queen's Printer Budget

	2007-08 Actual (Unaudited)	2006-07 Actual	2006-07 Budget	2005-06 Actual	2004-05 Actual
Revenue	$717,900	$722,751	$589,000	$643,444	$ 580,890
Expenditures					
Cost of Goods Sold	$206,748	$245,819	$228,000	$ 236,750	$ 199,626
Gross Profit/(Loss)	$511,152	$476,932	$361,000	$ 406,694	$ 381,264
Administrative Expenditures	$623,476	$580,509	$539,000	$ 518,147	$ 522,840
Net Profit/(Loss)	($112,324)	($103,577)	($178,000)	($111,453)	($141,576)
GRF Subsidy	$148,000	$159,000	$159,000	$ 125,145	$ 159,000
Net Profit/(Loss) After Subsidy	**$ 35,676**	**$55,423**	**($19,000)**	**$ 13,692**	**$ 17,424**

2007-08 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to keep Freelaw® an industry-leading delivery system for Government of Saskatchewan legislative documents.
- Continue to manage Publications Centre by recruiting and training new participants, and expanding and improving catalogue, payment and administrative processes.
- Continue to scan, edit and post historical legislation to form part of Freelaw®.
- Work with other government agencies to finalize implementation of the new Content Management System (CMS) for Publications Centre.
- Work co-operatively with other government agencies and other levels of government for opportunities to share information technology and publishing resources.
- Continue to share with and learn from other Queen's Printers in Canada with respect to legislative publishing and Internet publications delivery standards.
- Promote Freelaw® and the Publications Centre through media and direct marketing.
- Attend and/or sponsor relevant industry and business trade shows to promote Queen's Printer services.

2007-08 Activities and Results

- All government ministries and Crown corporations, as well as many related agencies, participate in the Government of Saskatchewan Publications Centre. A total of 52 agencies participate.
- The volume of information in Freelaw® continues to grow; however, keeping current information updated is the priority.
- Freelaw® has been amalgamated into Publications Centre with the exception of the home page and sub-pages.
- A Content Management System (CMS) has been implemented for the Government of Saskatchewan and Publications Centre is in testing for completion of the transfer to the CMS.
- Continued to work co-operatively in partnership with the Information Technology Office, the Ministry of Government Services and all participants in and outside of the provincial government to deliver Publications Centre.
- Queen's Printers in other provinces are becoming more electronic-based and delivering more free electronic services, as well as less paper. Saskatchewan is a leader in quantity and quality of electronic legislative publications.
- Marketed Publications Centre, including Freelaw®, through attendance at conferences and trade shows.
- Continued a strong relationship with the Uniform Law Conference of Canada by publishing the ULC annual proceedings and update to the Commercial Law Strategy Binder.
- Continued to promote and sponsor various related professional agencies (ie., Financial Management Institute) by preparing materials for professional development seminars.
- Completed private Act consolidating, editing, and posting to the Internet.
- Established an editorial schedule for loose-leaf services.

Queen's Printer Subscription Statistics

Subscriptions to Publication/Service	2003-04 Actual	2004-05 Actual	2005-06 Actual	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Actual
Statutes of Saskatchewan Bound Volume	115	111	105	204	198
The Saskatchewan Gazette	375	345	325	287	273
Loose-leaf Statutes	270	257	245	328	320
Loose-leaf Regulations	102	98	90	106	103
Separate Chapters	65	61	58	86	53
Tables	205	201	186	221	211
Rules of Court (Eng/Fr)	235/0	232/0	229/0	417/0	361/1
Loose-leaf Oil and Gas	84	82	82	122	119
Loose-leaf Mining	20	20	20	25	27
Loose-leaf Rural Municipality	238	238	234	250	249
Loose-leaf Urban Municipality	319	323	315	308	308

Victims Services

Victims Services has the primary responsibility for assisting victims involved in the criminal justice system in Saskatchewan. Victims have needs directly related to their involvement in the criminal justice system, and these needs may include:

- information on the justice system and assistance as they proceed through the criminal justice process;
- compensation to offset expenses directly resulting from violent crime; and
- an opportunity to tell the court how a crime has affected them.

Victims of reported crime, those who come to the attention of the justice system, are the first priority of the program. Initiatives for victims of unreported crime and at-risk individuals are also considered important and are supported to the extent that resources are available. Special emphasis is placed on meeting the needs of more vulnerable individuals, such as children and persons with disabilities, as well as Aboriginal people who are disproportionately victimized by crime.

In order to ensure basic services are available to meet the needs of victims of crime throughout Saskatchewan, Victims Services offers a range of direct programs and services which are outlined in this report. Underlying these direct services are other initiatives that improve understanding and increase awareness of the needs of victims, and help ensure a comprehensive and co-operative response. These indirect supports include:

- education and training;
- co-ordination of services;
- research and evaluation initiatives; and
- prevention of victimization programming.

The governing legislation of the Victims Services Program is *The Victims of Crime Act, 1995* and *The Victims of Crime Regulations, 1997*.

The Victims' Fund, which was established by this legislation, is the primary support for services for victims of crime. This is a special-purpose fund that is predominantly comprised of the victims surcharge that is paid by offenders on federal and provincial offences.

Victims Services also manages a number of initiatives funded by the General Revenue Fund as part of the Ministry's response to the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform.

2007–08 Goals and Objectives

- Effectively manage the Victims' Fund, by monitoring revenue and expenditures and exploring avenues to increase revenue.
- Develop a poster on the new *Declaration of Principles Respecting the Treatment of Victims of Crime*; develop a plan for distribution and awareness activities within the criminal justice system in Saskatchewan.

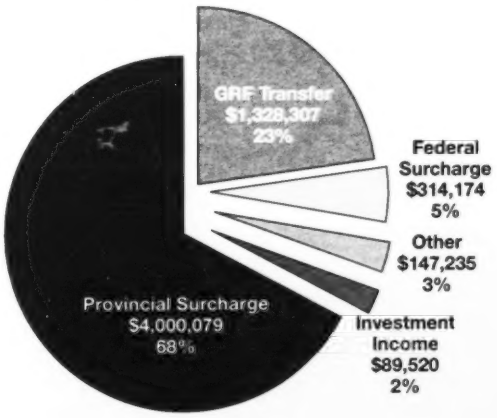
- Fully implement changes to the Victims Compensation Program that resulted from legislative and policy changes, including:
  - develop and distribute a new brochure;
  - update the Victims Compensation policy manual; and
  - implement a new Victims Compensation appeal process, including recommending individuals for appointment to the new Appeal Committee and developing processes for this committee.
- Complete the pilot phase of the Victims Services Co-ordination training program in partnership with SIAST Wascana Campus, and develop a plan for ongoing training on an annual basis. Contribute to a proposal for the course to be approved by SIAST as a certificate program.
- Work with the Aboriginal Family Violence programs and Ministry's committee on inter-personal violence, to respond to the recommendations of the evaluation of the Aboriginal Family Violence Strategy.
- Work closely with the RCMP to provide training on the Justice Response to Domestic Violence to RCMP members and community agencies in 10 regions of the province.
- Develop a policy and procedures manual for the Restitution Program, and begin planning the development of an automated information management system.
- Roll-out new funding for Children Who Witness Domestic Violence programs, including the enhancement of the four existing programs and developing programs in four new regions.
- Work with other Ministry of Justice and Attorney General branches on the development of a policy for the management of provincial proceeds of crime; and develop a proposal for the expenditure of this revenue.
- Work with community members and RCMP in the Spiritwood area to develop opportunities to bring police-based victims services to this area.
- Access federal funding for specific projects where available; including the development of a model and funding proposal for a new Victim Impact Statement Travel Funding Program.

2007-08 Activities and Results

Financial Management/Administration

- Total revenue for 2007-08 was $5,879,315. This includes surcharges, surcharge receivables, GRF transfer, interest, proceeds of crime and other miscellaneous revenue. Expenditures for 2007-08 totalled $4,693,747. These figures are unaudited and do not include all year-end adjustments. The audited financial statements for the Victims' Fund will be included with the Public Accounts at July 31, 2008.

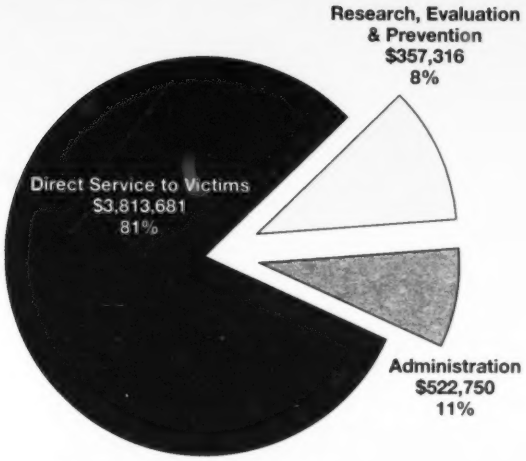
Victims Services 2007-2008
Actual Revenues – Unaudited



* Chart does not include year-end adjustments

Total Revenue $5,879,315

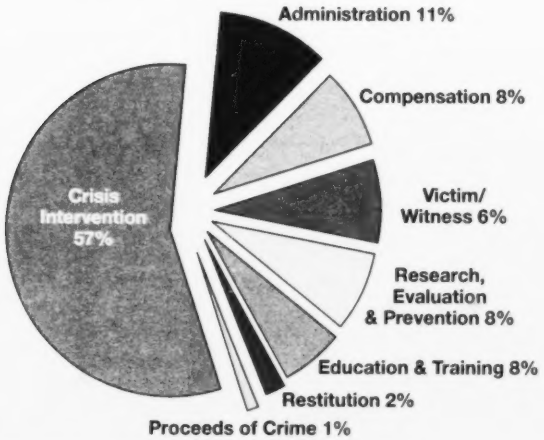
Victims Services 2007-2008
Actual Expenditures – Unaudited



* Chart does not include year-end adjustments

Total Expenditures $4,693,747

Victims Services 2007-2008
Actual Expenditures – Unaudited



* Chart does not include year-end adjustments
* May not equal 100% due to rounding

- Monitored provincial and federal victim surcharge imposition and collection, as well as investment of the Victims' Fund to maximize revenue.
- Identified two Saskatchewan cases in which the federal victim surcharge was waived during the offenders' sentencing, without them first having raised concerns about financial hardship. Raised both cases to the attention of Public Prosecutions which successfully appealed both cases, establishing precedent in this area.
- Requested that Justice Canada conduct research into the victim surcharge on federal offences in Saskatchewan, and contributed to the development of an initial plan. As a result, Justice Canada's research project on this topic is expected to occur in 2008-09.
- Conducted financial audits of funded programs, worked with specific programs to resolve management and financial issues, and trained program staff on financial management software to enable them to have the knowledge to assume responsibility for their finances in the future.
- Accessed federal funding for the SIAST Victims Services Co-ordination Training Pilot Project, a Northern Victims Services Program Manager, and the Domestic Violence Victim Caseworker Program as part of the Regina Domestic Violence Court. Consulted with Public Prosecutions on the feasibility of developing a Victim Impact Statement Travel Program in Saskatchewan.
- Administered federal proceeds of crime (POC) monies that were deposited into the Victims' Fund, with payment of these funds to police agencies as designated for anti-organized crime and crime prevention activities. Maintained provincial POC monies in the Victims' Fund, and began development of a proposal for the expenditure of these monies on programs for victims of crime. Also worked with other branches on development of a policy for the management of provincial POC.
- Seconded a Victims Services Co-ordinator to work part-time as a temporary Northern Program Manager to assist with the development of the new programs in Sandy Bay and Stony Rapids/Black Lake.

Victims Services Staffing

Total FTE Establishment	
Administration	6.5
Compensation	2.0
Restitution	3.0
Victim/Witness Support	4.5
Training & Interpersonal Violence Manager	1.0
TOTAL FTEs	**17.0**

Police-Based Victims Services

- Managed funding agreements with 18 community agencies and municipal police services to ensure that services are available to 87 per cent of Saskatchewan's population. This includes 18 police-based Victims Services programs and six Aboriginal Resource Officer programs which are part of the local Victims Services team.
- Assisted community-based agencies to begin service delivery to victims in the following new areas:
  - the city of Weyburn, the Weyburn RCMP Detachment area and the town of Stoughton, through expansion of Southeast Regional Victim Services Inc. Service delivery began in April 2007.
  - Sandy Bay, with a new program established as part of the Sandy Bay Community Resource Centre Inc. Service delivery began in September 2007.
  - Stony Rapids and Black Lake, with a new program established under the Athabasca Health Authority. Service delivery began in October 2007.
- Worked with community and RCMP representatives from the Spiritwood RCMP Detachment area to develop a plan for service delivery in this area. Provided funding to Prince Albert Regional Victim Services Inc. for expansion to this area. Staff recruitment began in 2007-08 with service delivery to begin in 2008-09.

Specialized Victims Services

- Provided funding for five specialized programs in urban centres, where client volume and/or unique needs require a different delivery model to meet demands. This includes programs for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, including services associated with domestic violence courts in the Battlefords, Saskatoon and Regina.
- Continued to assist with funding and management of the Saskatoon Centre for Children's Justice and Victim Services.

Victim/Witness Services

- Continued to offer court orientation and support to children and other vulnerable witnesses who are required to testify in court. Services are provided province-wide by four programs located in regional prosecutions offices.
- Participated on facility planning committees to provide recommendations for the inclusion of child-friendly facilities in plans for new courthouses in La Ronge and Meadow Lake.

Victim/Witness Statistics *

	Males			Females			Total		
Year	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Children	56	60	46	75	82	75	131	142	121
Teens	98	85	92	196	186	189	294	271	281
Adults	107	101	49	341	329	239	448	430	288
Total	**261**	**246**	**187**	**612**	**597**	**503**	**873**	**843**	**690**

* Number of new clients in fiscal year.

Victims Compensation Program

- Provided compensation totaling $355,821 to 373 victims, to reimburse them for actual expenses resulting from crimes of personal violence.

Victims Compensation Statistics

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Applications Received	321	354	418	401
Applications Approved	296	323	380	373
Applications Denied	25	31	38	28
Total Amount Awarded	$288,130*	$310,034	$397,108	$355,821
Average Award	$973	$960	$1045	$954

* In 2004-05, there were no claims for large awards.

- Implemented the use of an automated information management system for the Victims Compensation Program.
- Developed and distributed a new brochure on the Victims Compensation Program, and updated the Policy and Procedures Manual.
- Three members were appointed to the new Victims Compensation Appeal Committee, as required by amendments to *The Victims of Crime Act, 1995*. Provided orientation and training to the new committee and assisted with the development of committee procedures.

Restitution Program

- Monitored and helped to enforce court-ordered restitution for adult offenders, advised victims of available civil enforcement measures and the registration process, and conducted training for criminal justice system professionals. The program monitored 851 new restitution files in 2007-08.
- Completed the first draft of a new policy and procedures manual for the program, and developed the new Restitution Policy for Adult Probation Services in the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing.
- Requested that Justice Canada conduct research into restitution in Saskatchewan, and assisted in their planning for this. As a result, Justice Canada's "Understanding Restitution in Saskatchewan" research project will occur in 2008-09. Anticipated outcomes include data to support possible improvements to the program, and recommendations regarding the development of an automated information management system.

Aboriginal Initiatives

- Effectively administered funding for six Aboriginal Family Violence (AFV) programs and six Aboriginal Resource Officer programs.
- Worked with local agencies in Regina and Saskatoon to merge two AFV programs into one agency with two staff in each city, bringing the total AFV programs in the province to six from eight. These mergers helped to address one of the recommendations from the evaluation of the Saskatchewan Justice AFV Strategy: to ensure that programs have adequate human resources.
- Finalized and began implementing an action plan to address the recommendations of the AFV Strategy Evaluation. Held a meeting of all AFV programs to obtain their input into a strategic planning process.

Education and Training

- Assisted SIAST Wascana Campus in conducting the second course of the basic training pilot program for police-based Victims Services program staff. A third course began in March 2008 with completion scheduled for June 2008, and future courses will be held as needed. Victims Services continued to provide input to SIAST during their consideration of this course for approval as an Applied Certificate program.
- Hosted two meetings and training sessions for the six Children Who Witness Violence (CWWV) programs, and funded one CWWV program facilitator to attend the 3rd International Children Exposed to Domestic Violence Conference in London, Ontario.
- Distributed over 24,000 copies of brochures, posters, fact sheets, bookmarks and other educational material to justice staff, community agencies and individuals. This included the new poster on Saskatchewan's *Declaration of Principles Respecting the Treatment of Victims of Crime* and other updated materials.
- Co-ordinated input from the Ministries of Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, for the development of a new "Victims of Crime" information booklet produced by PLEA Saskatchewan in partnership with the Saskatchewan Association of Police Affiliated Victim Services Inc.
- Successfully co-ordinated Saskatchewan's activities during the 2007 National Victims of Crime Awareness Week to raise awareness of the needs of victims, inform the public about services that are available, and acknowledge 300 volunteers who assisted in providing services to victims of crime. Special recognition was given to 10-year volunteers. Began planning for the next annual week to be held in April 2008.
- Delivered presentations on the needs of victims and available programs and supports to Victims Services funded agencies, various groups of criminal justice system personnel including police recruits at the Saskatchewan Police College and RCMP Training Academy, and at conferences and workshops.
- Delivered two training sessions to RCMP members on the Justice Response to Domestic Violence, and worked with RCMP "F" Division on a plan for further training in 2008-09.

Co-ordination

- Supported the Saskatchewan Association of Police Affiliated Victim Services Inc. by providing funding for: travel costs for Executive Committee meetings; the Chairperson's attendance at regular meetings with Victims Services and the RCMP; administration of the members' benefits plan; the Association's

annual general meeting and training conference; and, for three members to attend the Cutting Edge of Restorative Justice Provincial Conference.

- Met regularly with RCMP "F" Division Community Services and the Chair of the Saskatchewan Association of Police Affiliated Victim Services Inc. to discuss and address issues of mutual concern.
- Continued to work with the RCMP on the development of processes to address privacy concerns, and to ensure that victims continue to be referred to local Victims Services programs. Participated in the RCMP's federal/provincial/territorial consultation to provide recommendations and input on this issue.
- Provided ongoing support and expertise to the Battlefords Domestic Violence Treatment Option Court and the Saskatoon Domestic Violence Court projects, and participated in planning and development meetings for a domestic violence court in Regina.
- Participated in various inter-ministerial committees on family violence, child abuse, child exploitation and abuse of the elderly.
- Represented Saskatchewan at two meetings of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group on Victims Issues. Co-chaired the Sub-committee on Aboriginal Victimization, and developed a two-year work plan.
- Represented the Ministry on the Premier's Voluntary Sector Initiative Steering Committee.

Research and Evaluation

- Collected and monitored regular qualitative and quantitative reporting from all funded agencies.
- Supported the Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch in the administration of an ongoing evaluation of police-based Victims Services client satisfaction.
- Requested that Justice Canada conduct research into restitution in Saskatchewan, and assisted in their planning for this. As a result, Justice Canada's "Understanding Restitution in Saskatchewan" research project will occur in 2008-09.
- Requested that Justice Canada conduct research into the victim surcharge on federal offences in Saskatchewan, and contributed to the development of an initial plan. As a result, Justice Canada's research project on this topic is expected to occur in 2008-09.

Prevention of Victimization Programming

- Managed ongoing funding for four Children Who Witness Violence (CWWV) programs. With new funding provided as part of the Provincial Policy Against Interpersonal Violence and Abuse, successfully expanded the four existing CWWV programs; funded new programs in Estevan and Moose Jaw; and worked with community representatives on developing models for new programs in La Ronge and the Buffalo Narrows area, which are expected to begin providing services in 2008-09.
- Managed ongoing funding for the Street Workers Advocacy Program in Regina.
- Provided financial support for four projects funded through the Prevention and Support Grants.

Appendix D: Key Contact Information

Access and Privacy
1020 - 1874 Scarth Street
Regina, SK S4P 4B3
Phone: (306) 787-5473 Fax: (306) 798-4064
E-mail: accessprivacyjustice@gov.sk.ca

Aboriginal Courtworker Program
600 - 1874 Scarth Street
Regina, SK S4P 4B3
Phone: (306) 787-6467 Fax: (306) 787-0078
National Web Site: www.courtworker.com

Automobile Injury Appeal Commission
Room 100, Main Floor, 2101 Scarth Street
Regina, SK S4P 2H9
Phone: (306) 798-5545 Fax: (306) 798-5540
Toll-Free: 1-866-798-5544

Commissioner for Oaths and Notary Public
1010 - 1874 Scarth Street
Regina, SK S4P 4B3
Phone: (306) 787-4117 Fax: (306)787-8737

Consumer Protection Branch
Suite 500, 1919 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina, SK S4P 4H2
Phone: (306) 787-5550 Fax: (306) 787-9779
Toll-Free: 1-888-374-4636 (Sask. only)

Corporations Branch
2nd floor, 1871 Smith Street
Regina, SK S4P 4W5
Phone: (306) 787-2962 Fax: (306) 787-8999
E-mail: corporationsjustice@gov.sk.ca
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday

Dispute Resolution Office
3rd floor, 3085 Albert Street
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Phone: (306) 787-5747 Fax: (306) 787-0088
E-mail: disputeresolutionjustice@gov.sk.ca

Family Justice Services Branch
Room 100 - 3085 Albert Street
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Phone: (306) 787-8961 Fax: (306) 787-1420
Toll-Free: 1-866-229-9712 (outside of Regina area)
E-mail: aemoinquiry@justice.gov.sk.ca

Family Law Information Centre
Phone: (306) 787-5837 Fax: (306) 787-0107
Toll-Free: 1-888-218-2822 (Sask. only)

Human Rights Commission
Suite 816, Sturdy Stone Building
122 - 3rd Ave. N.
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6
Phone: (306) 933-5952 Fax: (306) 933-7863
Telewriter: 306-373-2119
Toll-Free: 1-800-667-9249 (Sask. only)

Legal Aid Commission
502, 201 - 21st Street East
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6
Phone: (306) 933-5300 Fax: (306) 933-6764
Toll-Free: 1-800-667-3764
E-mail: central@legalaid.gov.sk.ca

Office of Residential Tenancies
Regina Office
120 - 2151 Scarth Street,
Regina, SK S4P 2H8
Phone: (306) 787-2699 Fax: (306) 787-5574

Saskatoon Office
Main Floor, Sturdy Stone Building
122 - 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6
Phone: (306) 933-5680 Fax: (306) 933-7030

Toll-Free telephone line: 1-888-215-2222
(Saskatchewan only)
Toll-Free Fax line: 1-888-867-7776
(Saskatchewan only)
A drop box located outside the office on the
22nd Street side.

Provincial Mediation Board
Regina Office
120 - 2151 Scarth Street
Regina, SK. S4P 2H8
Debt Management and Credit Counselling Inquiry:
Phone: (306) 787-5387 Fax: (306) 787-5574

Saskatoon Office
Main Floor, Sturdy Stone Building
122 - 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6
Debt Management and Credit Counselling Inquiry:
Phone: (306) 933-6520 Fax: (306) 933-7030
Toll-Free: 1-888-215-2222
Fax Toll-Free: 1-888-867-7776

Public Guardian and Trustee
100 - 1871 Smith Street
Regina, SK S4P 4W4
Phone: (306) 787-5424 Fax: (306) 787-5065
Toll-Free: 1-877-787-5424
E-mail: pgt@gov.sk.ca

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Closed for the noon hour and holidays)

Victims Services Branch
610 - 1874 Scarth Street
Regina, SK S4P 4B3
Phone: (306) 787-3500 Fax: (306) 787-0081
Toll-Free: 1-888-286-6664
TTY Phone Number: 1-866-445-8857